FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 NOVEMBER 1983

PLO Affairs

Cease-Fire, Diplomatic Moves — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has agreed to cease fire and to resolve the Palestinian dispute peacefully through negotiations, PLO representative to Saudi Arabia Rafiq an-Natshah announced in Damascus in a statement reported by Radio Monte Carlo on 23 November.

The announcement followed intensive diplomatic moves to end the fighting involving both Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the four-man nonaligned delegation, which was received by Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on 22 November, according to Damascus radio. Khaddam held further talks with his Saudi counterpart on 23 November, the radio noted.

Meanwhile, PLO Political Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi arrived in Moscow on an official visit during which he will convey a message from 'Arafat to General Secretary Yuriy Andropov concerning the "Syrian-Libyan military aggression aimed at liquidating the Palestinian revolution," Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Qaddumi held talks with Soviet officials and also met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz in the Soviet capital, the radio said.

In telephone interviews with KUNA and QNA from Tripoli, 'Arafat accused Syrian and Libyan forces of committing "massacres" in Palestinian camps near Tripoli and revealed that he is sending a delegation under Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf to Saudi Arabia to discuss an emergency Arab summit to solve the crisis in northern Lebanon. The PLO leader said any departure from Tripoli is "premature," although he is prepared to make "an honorable exit" that will safeguard the PLO's credibility and independence, according to Beirut radio.

Tripoli Military Situation — Before the cease-fire announcement from Damascus, PLO deputy military commander Khalil al-Wazir warned of a possible attack on the port area and said the lull in the fighting was only a breathing space, not an official cease-fire, AFP reported. Beirut radio said Tripoli was generally calm, but Baghdad Voice of PLO accused "Syrian and Libyan forces and their agents" of deliberately shelling UNRWA flour warehouses "in order to bring the masses to their knees." In the Al-Baddawi camp, PFLP-GC leader Ahmad Jibril declared that he will "chase 'Arafat through the streets of Tripoli" if he refuses to leave the city within the next 3 days, Beirut radio reported.

Saudi Stance — Crown Prince 'Abdallah, in a KUNA interview broadcast by Riyadh radio, expressed "rage" at 'Arafat's opponents, accusing them of treason and warning that military action does not give legitimacy to a "usurper." The Arab nation did not make its generous sacrifices to the Palestinian cause "so that a colonel or a brigadier can carry out a military coup against the authority which is loyal to the Palestinian cause, represented by the PLO," he stated. 'Arafat subsequently telephoned the crown prince to express gratitude for his comments, SPA reported.

Lebanon

Lebanon has severed diplomatic relations with Iran and "frozen" relations with Libya, Voice of Lebanon reported. Relations were also broken with the YAR, according to the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, and ambassadors to the three countries were recalled in view of their "actual and tangible intervention" using "gunmen" in Al-Biqa' and elsewhere.

In the military sphere, Beirut and the Voice of Lebanon radios reported Lebanese Army positions in the mountains and Beirut's southern suburb coming under attack and a series of bomb explosions in the capital. In the south, Israel has renewed "stiff security measures" on the Al-Awwali bridges, requiring drivers to present special permits before being allowed to cross south, following intelligence reports of plans to infiltrate booby-trapped vehicles across the bridges, IDF Radio reported.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad met with government and military officials on 22 November, according to Damascus radio. Earlier, the president's press adviser termed Al-Asad's health good and "steadily improving" and denied rumors that he has had a heart attack, Radio Monte Carlo stated. Israeli sources in Washington, cited by Jerusalem radio, said that Al-Asad has leukemia and a heart condition.

Iraq

Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz departed the Soviet Union and returned to Iraq on 22 November, Baghdad radio and TASS reported. During his 3-day visit 'Aziz and Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko reaffirmed their views on the situation in the Middle East as a whole, Lebanon, and the Gulf war, according to TASS and INA. They also discussed the Palestinian issue, retierating support for the PLO and calling for an end to the divisions within the Palestinian movement, the agencies added.

In another development, the chief of the USSR State Planning Committee's Foreign Economic Relations Department arrived in Baghdad to take part in the regular meeting of the IRAQ-USSR joint Committee for Economic, Scientific, and Technical cooperation, INA disclosed.

Iran-Iraq War .

A Greek freighter was sunk by an Iraqi Exocet missile near the Iranian port of Bushehr on 21 November, the Lloyds Shipping Intelligence Service cited by AFP revealed. Iraqi military communiques had reported a naval engagement on the same day during which seven Iranian "naval targets" were sunk. Meanwhile, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio did not mention the naval engagement or any sinkings, continuing to report only defensive engagements and artillery duels in all sectors.

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'Arafat Accepts Saudi Cease-Fire Proposals

JN231029 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] High-level consultations are expected to continue today to avoid renewed fighting in Tripoli, north Lebanon. Rafiq an-Natshah, PLO representative in Riyadh, arrived in Damascus yesterday — at King Fahd's request, as An-Natshah put it. An-Natshah announced today that Yasir 'Arafat has agreed to the two points that were presented to resolve the PLO dispute and stop fighting in northern Lebanon. The first point is delivering Lebanon and putting an end to the fighting. The second is safeguarding the PLO's unity and ending the conflict by peaceful means through negotiations. An-Natshah asserted that consultations will continue today in order to reach an agreement on the means of implementing this solution.

AFP Report

NC231040 Paris AFP in English 1028 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 23 (AFP) — Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has accepted a Saudi-negotiated draft agreement which calls for the evacuation of Tripoli by all Palestinian combattants and an end to armed warfare within the PLO, the PLO spokesman in Saudi Arabia said. If the agreement went into effect, it would mean Mr 'Arafat would have to quit the northern Lebanese city.

Abu Shakir, the PLO representative in Riyadh, in a phone interview from Damascus where he arrived earlier today, said Mr 'Arafat and the Fatah Central Committee had accepted a two-point peace plan drafted by the Saudi foreign minister and Syrian officials.

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal was sent to Damascus yesteray to seek an end to intra-Palestinian fighting in Tripoli.

Mr Shakir, who is a member of Fatah's Central Committee, said Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal would continue to meet with Syrian leaders today. He praised Saudi mediating efforts and underlined Fatah's desire to see fighting in Tripoli come to an end.

'Arafat Thanks Fahd for Interview Remarks

LD221523 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Nov (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, and commander of the National Guard, has received a telephone call from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in which 'Arafat expressed his deep gratitude and appreciation for his royal highness' comments about the Palestinian question in his interview yesterday. 'Arafat also expressed how he was touched by what was contained in his royal highness' interview regarding the fighting taking place among the Palestinians in northern Lebanon, considering it an event unacceptable to any mind, unjustifiable by any logic, and inexplicable to any history because it is fighting involving the liquidation of the Palestinian question, erasing its features, and realizing the aims of the Zionist enemy. His royal highness the crown prince replied by saying that this is what duty demands toward our brethren in faith and Islam.

Reportage on Qaddumi Visit to Soviet Union

JN221745 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Fariq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, and his delegation continue their official visit to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet leaders. Our radio correspondent says that Brother Abu al-Lutf will convey a message from brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] to Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov, dealing with recent developments in northern Lebanon and the Syrian-Libyan military aggression aimed at liquidating the Palestinian revolution. Our correspondent adds that Brother Abu al-Lutf and his delegation have held several meetings with Soviet officials, who reiterated the USSR's constant stand supporting our people's just struggle under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. The Soviet officials reiterated the USSR's concern about the PLO's unity and future under its legitimate nationalist leadership. The Palestinian delegation outlined the nature, dimensions, and objectives of the Syrian military aggression against the PLO. Brother Abu al-Lutf spoke highly of the USSR's constant stand of supporting and backing our Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. Our correspondent learned that the Soviet leaders showed great concern over the aggravating situation in Tripoli.

In another development, Brother Abu al-Lutf this morning met with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who is now visiting Moscow. They reviewed the latest developments in northern Lebanon and underlined the need for continuing coordination on this issue, particularly what is related to the cease-fire and its continuation.

Abu al-Lutf made the following statement in Moscow: As it expresses its deep sorrow for the step adopted by the Turkish side in Cyprus and the establishment of a Turkish Cypriot state in the northern part of Cyprus, the PLO wishes to reconfirm its constant principled stand regarding the unity, independence, and sovereignty of the independent Republic of Cyprus in all its territory. The PLO recognizes only the legitimate Cypriot Government, which in turn is recognized by the United Nations. Our Palestinian Arab people, who have been subjected to the plot of dividing their land and being expelled from it, are aware of the dangerous step adopted by the Turkish side in the island. Despite the continued plot and aggression against our people, they wish to voice their full solidarity with the friendly Cypriot people and their legitimate government. Our people wish to voice their support for the Cypriots' efforts to defend the unity, independence, and sovereignty of Cyprus.

KUNA on Visit

LD221844 Kuwait KUNA in English 1746 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Moscow, Nov 22 (KUNA) — Head of the Palestine Liberation Organization Political Department Faruq Qaddumi

arrived here Tuesday for talks with the Soviet leadership over the clashes in Tripoli between opponents and supporters of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, according to the Soviet news agency TASS. Qaddumi's visit comes close on the heels of a trip to the Soviet capital by Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, and a visit by Iraqi Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, which ended Tuesday.

The PLO official, who is also a Central Committee member of the mainstream Fatah movement, has been scheduled to hold the Moscow talks for over a week, with signs of growing discontent from Moscow with the actions of anti-'Arafat rebels besieging the PLO chairman in northern Lebanon. Khaddam's visit, last week, was accompanied by sharp Soviet criticism of the Fatah infighting, widely seen as a rebuke to Syria for failing to rein in the anti-'Arafat forces.

The visit of the Iraqi minister, whose country's relations with Syria are extremely strained, was, in contrast, marked by a notable relaxation of the tensions that have pervaded bilateral ties since the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war three years ago. 'Aziz met with Qaddumi before the former left Moscow.

Moscow's strongly-stated determination to see an end to the Tripoli crisis has underlined the importance of Qaddumi's much-awaited visit, which follows reports of intensive contacts between Soviet and Palestinian officials in Arab capitals over the past two weeks. Qaddumi, together with Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abas, later met with members of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

Soviet Coverage

For Soviet reportage on the visit by Faruq Qaddumi to the USSR, including his 23 November meeting with Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, see the Middle East and North Africa section of the 22 November Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

'Arafat Asks Paris To Convene Security Council

NC221300 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch by correspondent in Paris Antoine 'Awn — recorded]

[Excerpt] In cooperation with the Soviet Union and some nonaligned states, France has embarked on a move aimed at rescuing Tripoli and ousting Yasir 'Arafat and his gunmen from the capital of the north. Paris is trying to take advantage of the cease-fire that has been declared in northern Lebanon to find a way out, but 'Arafat himself believes this is too early despite the fact that the dissidents are now 1 km from his positions in Tripoli. This is what Hani al-Hasan, 'Arafat's political adviser, communicated to a senior official in the French External Realtions Ministry yesterday.

It was reiterated here that 'Arafat asked the French Government to call for a meeting of the Security Council, to halt what is being committed against his supporters in the north, and to provide guarantees on the basis of which he would be able to leave Lebanon. 'Arafat is prepared to make an honorable exit from Tripoli that will safeguard the credibility of the PLO and the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking. France agreed to his request on the condition that any state sympathizing with the PLO join it in doing so. However, according to Paris information, no Arab state has thus far expressed readiness to do so. More than one government courteously declined to do so during contacts the French External Relations Ministry had with them in the past 2 days.

Will Paris continue its endeavors unilaterally? The cease-fire period and the exacerbation of the social and living conditions in Tripoli might prompt it to do so.

'Arafat on Arab Summit, Possible Exit, Arms

GF221430 Doha QNA in Arabic 1110 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 22 Nov (QNA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has announced that the organization during the next few hours will begin an Arab diplomatic move to hold an urgent Arab summit to remedy the events of northern Lebanon. He said he will send Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, the second ranking man in the Fatah movement, at the head of a delegation to Saudi Arabia to meet with His Majesty King Fahd and to discuss with him the possibility of holding the summit. He also said that other Palestinian envoys began an Arab move in this direction.

In a telephone conversation with QNA, Abu 'Ammar added that the Arab summit can put an end to the events in northern Lebanon. He called on the leaders of the Arab nation to shoulder all their responsibilities toward what the Palestinian revolution is being subjected to.

'Arafat said that yesterday he informed former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami of his initial approval of Karami's last initiative on condition that the other side abides by this initiative. He said: We are raising the slogan of welcoming the Palestinian, Arab, and international initiatives to stop this painful bloodshed. He referred in this regard to his agreement on the initiative of the Islamic legal opinion council in Lebanon [dar al-fatwa al-islamiyah fi lubnan], the initiative of Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, and the initiative of the GCC.

Yasir 'Arafat spoke about the casualties resulting from fighting in Tripoli and said that there were over 1,000 dead and 3,000 wounded, of whom 90 percent were civilians during the first 2 weeks of fighting in addition to the damage on the economic establishments such as Tripoli port, the oil refinery, wood warehouse, and a number of ships staying at the harbor in Tripoli. 'Arafat described the military situation as extremely dangerous. He said that there are 154 cannon and rocket launchers pointing their barrels at Tripoli and the areas surrounding it.

Regarding the possibility of settling the situation militarily, he said that he does not at all rely on military action to resolve the problems that face him. He said: What we are doing is defending ourselves against this expanded military aggression.

Answering a question on his exit from Tripoli, he said that basically he came to the city to remain with the sons of his people and the troops loyal to him in light of the confirmed information that was available to him about the events. 'Arafat added that he will not leave Tripoli unless he gets confirmed guarantees that there will be no danger to the security and safety of the masses, the Palestinian revolution, and the city of Tripoli.

'Arafat refused to answer a question on reports that Soviet weapons were sent recently to his troops in Tripoli. He said: Our relations with the Soviets are not only based on arms shipments. We do not deal with the Soviet Union as an arms source or merchant; we deal with it as major friend of the Palestinian revolution, the Palestinian people, and the Arab nation.

Monte Carlo Reports Further Mediation Efforts

JN221846 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] A few moments ago we contacted Tripoli, and Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] told us that the security situation calmed down this afternoon in spite of the fact that some shells continue to fall from time to time. In the morning the situation was tense when an attempt to approach the positions of those loyal to Yasir 'Arafat took place.

A telephone contact took place between Abu 'Ammar and Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, who is in Kuwait and who in a statement to KUNA vehemently criticized the dissidents within Fatah.

When we asked Abu Jihad about the Saudi mediation and Syrian-Saudi talks in the wake of 'Arafat's telephone contact, he told us that the preliminary result was that an agreement was made to resume the Palestinian-Syrian dialogue, and that, for this reason, Rafiq an-Natshah, PLO representative in Riyadh, will leave for Damascus in the next few hours.

An-Natshah announced this afternoon that Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] will arrive in Saudi Arabia immediately following the return of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal from Damascus.

Al-Hasan Departs for Damascus

JN230827 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Intensive contacts, efforts, and meetings are continuing to reach a solution in north Lebanon. Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam yesterday received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the Nonaligned Movement committee led by the Indian foreign minister.

Today Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan left Tunis for Damascus to participate in these contacts. Al-Hasan was scheduled to leave Tunis for Morocco to meet with King Hassan II but contacts during the past few hours forced him to change his plans and leave for Damascus.

AL-BAYAN Cites 'Arafat on Departure Conditions

GF230934 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Dubayy, 23 Nov (WAKH) — *AL-BAYAN* newspaper, which is published in Dubayy, today quotes PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat as saying that neither the PLO nor the Fatah movement will surrender the Palestinian card to any party, that neither of them will allow a mandate to be imposed on it, and that both of them will fight on the basis of the organizational principles declared in their charters and in all their decisions and political programs.

The paper says that according to a telephone contact it made with 'Arafat from Beirut, he informed a Lebanese envoy who is in touch with Syria that he will not leave Tripoli until some demands are met, including an official cease-fire achieved through a declared agreement, evacuation of armed men from Al-Baddawi camp, a bilateral summit meeting to be held at the Arab League Headquarters in Tunis, and respect for the Palestinian decision with regard to the Palestinian question.

In his contact with the newspaper, 'Arafat explained that he is prepared to leave Tripoli under the condition that Arab forces be sent to secure protection for Palestinian civilians in the camps and for the inhabitants of Tripoli.

'Arafat Reportedly To Leave Tripoli by Helicopter

NC221457 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1445 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following report from the secret monitoring station in Tripoli: An unidentified helicopter landed in a camp belonging to the unification gang and 'Arafat clique in Tripoli at 1130 today. 'Arafat and Sa'id Sha'ban, leader of the Unification Movement, were in the camp. It is likely that 'Arafat has left aboard this helicopter for an unknown destination. We will give you further details when they become available.

Jibril Gives 'Arafat 3 Days To Leave Tripoli

NC221711 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Guarded calm still prevails in Tripoli. Reports from the north say that the cease-fire between 'Arafat loyalists and dissidents is holding, although sniper fire was reported in some areas in Tripoli where the dissidents have taken up positions. Ahmad Jibril, leader of the PFLP-GC, told reporters today that he will chase Yasir 'Arafat through the streets of Tripoli if he refuses to leave the city within the next 3 days. Jibril was speaking to reporters in the Al-Baddawi camp as shells were falling.

Jibril Conditions for Departure

JN222128 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, northern Lebanon — PFLP-GC Secretary General Ahmad Jibril has announced that his forces will leave the

Tripoli area if Yasir 'Arafat and his clique leave the area. Jibril said in a statement he made today: If 'Arafat's clique leaves Tripoli then we will move all our forces to southern Lebanon to confront the Israeli and Phalangist forces.

'Arafat Accuses Syrian, Libyan Forces of Massacres

LD221134 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1057 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Nov (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has stated that fighting in northern Lebanon between his forces and opposition forces has taken grave dimensions as a result of massacres he says attacking forces have committed. In a telephone conversation this morning with Chairman of the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee Shaykh Fahd al-Ahmad, he expressed astonishment about some who "disregard the reality of the situation, especially that Syrian and Libyan forces are participating in the fighting in the outskirts of Tripoli."

He said that "massacres, worse than the massacres of Sabra and Shatila, committed by Israeli and Phalangist elements against the Palestinian refugees, have been committed" in the Palestinian camps close to Tripoli, which he said are being exposed to destruction. Shaykh Fahd al-Ahmad said that 'Arafat asked him to convey his greetings and those of his brother fighters to Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah and asked him to convey a verbal message to his highness about the situation in northern Lebanon.

Syrian Movement Cables Support to 'Arafat

JN221843 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The National Alliance for the Liberation of Syria-General Secretariat [at-tahaluf al-watani li tahrir suriya, al-manah al-'ammah] has addressed a cable to Brother Abu 'Ammar. The cable says: Your steadfastness, courage, firmness, and sacrifices as well as those shown by your brothers in the legitimate Palestinian leadership have awakened the sleepers, alerted the careless, and revived the nation's hopes.

The cable adds: This heroism has united the ranks of the Palestinians in Lebanon, Syria, Jrodan, the occupied land, and in the entire Arab arena from the Arab Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean. The Palestinians are backing your firm stands, which exposed Al-Qadhdhafi and Al-Asad's treason and disclosed the Zionist enemy's Nazism and racism. The cable asserted that the Arab people in Syria stand alongside the Palestinian revolution with all their factions, parties, unions, students, workers, and intellectuals. The cables concludes by saying that our people in Syria will carry out their duty and role in defending their honor and purifying Syria from the filth of the oppressive clique, which has plotted against and harmed the homeland and the nation in a manner not shown by the enemy itself.

May God bless your efforts and grant you success in your jihad. Shame and death to Hafiz al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi, and their clique.

Hertzog, Khaddam Statements on 'Arafat Linked

JN222036 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1650 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] In an interview with the Paris-based magazine *AL-MUSTAQBAL*, Syrian Minister Khaddam says that he considers Brother Abu 'Ammar responsible for the bloody events in the city of Tripoli in northern Lebanon, and that Abu 'Ammar is preparing to drag Tripoli into the same fate into which he dragged Beirut in the summer of last year. This is what Khaddam says, Khaddam, the Syrian minister. I repeat: responsible for the bloody events in the city of Tripoli in northern Lebanon and that Abu 'Ammar is preparing to drag Tripoli into the same fate into which he dragged Beirut in the summer of last year.

In a speech broadcast by the enemy radio the night before last, Israeli President Hayim Hertzog says that the PLO is the side that has ruined Lebanon and the Middle East. The Israeli president, filled with his sick hopes and aspirations, predicts that 'Arafat will be defeated. I repeat: The PLO is the side that has ruined Lebanon and the Middle East and that the Israeli president predicts that 'Arafat will be defeated.

While trying to propagate his prediction and provoke others to fulfill it, the Israeli president adds that Syria and not the PLO terrorists is capable of abiding by and honoring agreements related to the Middle East. I repeat this once more: that Syria and not the PLO terrorists is capable of abiding by an honoring agreements related to the Middle East. The Israeli president also says that there is no need to rescue 'Arafat now because he constitutes a big danger to Israel. I repeat: There is no need to rescue 'Arafat now because he constitutes a big danger to Israel.

Brothers: Is there a need to comment on what Khaddam and Hertzog said? Is it necessary to disclose the details of the exposed identification between Khaddam's statements and those of Zionist Hertzog? We ask the Syrian media: Can you point out to us just one difference between the two persons' statements? The Syrian media will try hard but they will not be able to point out any difference.

PLO Representative in U.S. on Dissidence, Lebanon

LD220957 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0737 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Faysal az-Zayid dispatch]

[Text] Washington, 22 Nov (KUNA) — The PLO representative in Washington, Hasan 'Abd ar-Rahman, in an interview with KUNA, stated that the United States is pleased with the inter-Palestinian conflict and the attack on the PLO because harming the organization will make it easier for the American and Israeli plans to be implemented in the Middle East. The PLO representative, speaking here today, added that the United States "has stood and continues to stand against any expression of independence of Palestinian decisionmaking, against the Palestinian right to self-determination, and against the PLO and all manifestation of independence by the Palestinian people."

"The United States," he said, "is aware of the fact that the present battle is one of the defense of the Palestinian people's independence, and consequently it supports any side that seeks to destroy the independence of the Palestine people. What is now taking place in Lebanon is only a continuation of what was started by Sharon when he invaded Lebanon last year. The Syrian regime is now trying to achieve what Sharon failed to do."

'Abd ar-Rahman pointed out that there is an American misunderstanding of the nature of the PLO's work. The Americans, he added, see it as a military organization and consequently its future and legitimacy are dependent on its military capabilities. He pointed out that the PLO is not "a military base, but rather an embodiment of the entity of the Palestine people."

'Abd ar-Rahman said that the current fighting in northern Lebanon against the PLO and its leader Yasir 'Arafat is basically "a confrontation between Syria and Libya on the one hand and the PLO on the other." He added: "Unfortunately, one Palestinian side has allowed Syria to exploit it a bid to give the impression that the conflict is between Palestinians. But it has become clear that the conflict is one between the Palestinians on the one side and the Syrians and Libyans on the other, and that there are agents taking part in the attack on the PLO and the independence of Palestinian decisionmaking."

The PLO representative in Washington denied there is a rift within the Palestinians in the United States, affirming that 95 percent of the Palestinians there stand unreservedly on the side of Yasir 'Arafat. He added that "it is only natural that there should be some discordant voices, but they are shrinking daily and they have no effectiveness among the Palestinian community in the United States."

Asked about the likelihood of the division of the PLO into two currents — one influenced by Syria and the other moderate, under the leadership of 'Arafat — 'Abd ar-Rahman said "the future of the PLO and that of 'Arafat are not dependent on what is taking place now. What is taking place now is a battle we are fighting to defend outselves, our legitimacy, and our people's aspiration to decide matters independently in the face of attempts to dominate and annex them by any of the Arab regimes."

'Abd ar-Rahman said that the current Syrian objectives, after first creating this problem, "is an armed coup, backed by Syria, for domination of the PLO's legitimate institutions." He pointed out that the dissention within Fatah is "an act intended to undermine all that is democratic and legitimate in the Palestinian arena." "Syria," he added, "realizes the dimensions of this armed coupist action being staged in the Palestinian arena, because it wants to transform the PLO into a military regime similar to that in Syria."

With regard to President Reagan's initiative and the extent of 'Arafat's agreement with King Husayn about accepting it as a solution to the Palestine question, 'Abd ar-Rahamn said: "Relations between the PLO and Jordan are distinguished because of geographical and cultural reasons. The minimum acceptable level for any political settlement are the Fes Arab Summit conference resolutions, which enjoy Palestinian and Arab unanimity, unlike the Reagan initiative which enjoys neither Arab nor Palestinian unanimous approval."

Replying to another question about past mistakes made by the PLO, 'Abd ar-Rahman said, "Only the prophets are immune from error. There were some errors, but one must overlook mistakes that might have taken place in view of the length of the march and the enormity of the sacrifices offered by the people." Asked to define these errors, 'Abd ar-Rahman said he was talking about the movement of a whole people living under abnormal conditions. Consequently "some wrong practices might occur, but the sins that cannot be forgiven are those committed against the Palestinian people and the attempt to eliminate the PLO."

He affirmed that reform "is a daily program. The reform slogan, which is used as a cover for containment or destruction, is not reform, but we support rectification of errors." Asked about the reforms envisaged by 'Arafat's opponents, 'Abd ar-Rahman said that the opposition forces have "not put forward any reform program. It is evident that reform is the last thing they want. No group can pretend to be working for reform when it kills our people, as is happening now — the killing of our Palestinian people at Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps. Blood is bring spilled there for nothing. He who wants to fight Israel should not fight it at Al-Baddawi Camp or in Tripoli but on the Golan, in southern Lebanon, and in occupied Palestine."

Concluding the interview, he expressed appreciation for the efforts being exerted by the GCC leaders to consolidate the cease-fire.

AFP Interviews Dissident Spokesman on 'Arafat

NC221856 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 22 Nov 83

[By Michel Garin]

[Text] Damascus, Nov 22 (AFP) — The chief spokesman for the dissidents besieging Palestine Liberation Organization Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's forces in Tripoli, Lebanon, voiced hope today that the battle there was over and accused Mr 'Arafat of having provoked the fighting.

Spokesman Mahmud al-Labadi strongly assailed Mr 'Arafat in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, saying the PLO leader's main mistake was that he did not take into account the dissidents' demands when they were first made. He did not say, however, what role, if any, Mr 'Arafat would play within the PLO if the rebels succeed in ousting him from the leadership.

Mr al-Labadi's comments came as the dissidents led by Colonel Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], a former ranking 'Arafat military adviser, came to within striking distance of Mr 'Arafat's headquarters in Tripoli.

The dissidents called a unilateral ceasefire yesterday, apparently in response to pleas by religious leaders in Tripoli. In today's interview, Mr al-Labadi said he hoped new negotiations would make further fighting unnecessary.

But he alleged that "provocations" by the loyalists were behind the fighting and strongly condemned Mr 'Arafat's leadership — most notably his "stress on political struggle and not armed struggle."

"Yasir 'Arafat should have changed his position in the beginning of May, during the first week of dissidence within his organization," Mr al-Labadi said. "He did not want to take into account the reforms requested by certain members of Fatah," the largest grouping within the PLO.

"The revolt against Mr 'Arafat did not begin in May," he added. "Discontent within Fatah worsened after the Palestinians' departure from Beirut" after the Israeli siege of the city, in the late summer of 1982.

"'Arafat did not want to change his line for political reasons," Mr al-Labadi said. "He thought the United States could offer him something. He took a big step in the direction of moderation, but he didn't get anything."

Among the concessions that precipitated the revolt, Mr al-Labadi said, were a de facto recognition of Israel and an espousal of a Palestinian state in the occupied territories excluding any part of Israel itself — once part of Palestine.

Discussing Tripoli, Mr al-Labadi said: "'Arafat pulled us into a battle that we did not want. There were provocations," he did not elaborate.

He denied Mr 'Arafat's claims that Syria was involved in the fighting in Tripoli. "The PLO will not pass under Syria's control," he said. "No one can decide for the Palestinians."

Mr al-Labadi also said, however, that the PLO dissidents had "powerful support," but did not name a country.

In response to a question on Mr 'Arafat's future, Mr al-Labadi said his role would be decided at a Fatah general congress and at the PLO Council, both of which have yet to be scheduled. Again, he did not elaborate.

Mr al-Labadi's comments, notably his rejection of Mr 'Arafat's apparent attempts at moderation, appeared to reflect the radical view hinted at here by several leaders that the Palestinian struggle will soon enter a harsher, more anti-American phase that could increase tensions in the Middle East even further.

Nimr Salih Clarifies Dissension Objective

JN211803 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], a leader of the Fatah command opponents, today asserted that the opposition forces aim at preventing Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn from joining the U.S. peace plan for the Middle East. He disclosed that the number of fighters opposing Yasir 'Arafat's fighters has doubled since the beginning of the dissension. Replying to a question on the sources of financial and arms supplies to the opponents, Abu Salih said: We enjoy Arab and international contacts and alliances and we receive aid from various states as well as from the Palestinian people. We also control part of the Fatah funds and the supplies and arms stocks. Abu Salih announced that Yasir 'Arafat enjoys the support of the United States, France, Jordan, Egypt, and Iraq. He called on the French Government to change its stand because the Palestinian people, as he put it, are seeking France's support.

VOPR: Document Cited on Arms Sale to 'Arafat

NC211631 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Brothers, we received the following a short while ago from our secret monitoring station in Tripoli: A document has been seized from one of the deviationist headquarters sent by the Lebanese Phalangists to the 'Arafat clique. The document says: To honorable Brother Abu Hazim, greetings. We are prepared to supply personal arms to the northern area. If you wish to buy them, get in touch with Brother Abu Ghassan. The weapons and ammunition will be sent through the Lebanese Army roadblock.

The reply to the message said that although the purchase had been approved, a committee would be set up to make the necessary contact for the arms purchase. Abu Ghassan is the top responsible officer on the scientific committee of the 'Arafat clique and Abu Hazim is Fu'ad, a responsible official for finance in the 'Arafat clique.

Tripoli Quarter Prevents Entry of 'Arafat Men

NC221616 Turbul Lebanon Voice of Palestinian Revolution in Arabic 1604 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] We have received the following report from the military correspondent of the Voice of the Revolution radio: The people of the At-Tabbanah quarter [in Tripoli] have prevented Abu 'Ammar and his agent clique from stationing their armed men, rocket launchers, and artillery in their quarter. In the meantime, Khalil 'Akkawi, one of the leaders of the unification gang [Islamic Unification Movement], refused to fight with Yasir 'Arafat and his clique. An acute disagreement has arisen between Abu 'Ammar and a group of the unification gang represented by Shaykh Khalil 'Akkawi.

KUWAIT

Saudi Crown Prince Ends Official Visit 22 Nov

LD221847 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1402 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Nov (KUNA) — Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard of Saudi Arabia, ended his official visit Kuwait today and left for home. During the visit Prince 'Abdallah held talks with Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister of Kuwait. The talks concentrated on bilateral relations, the crisis within Fatah, the Iraqi-Iranian war and other issues of common concern. During his visit the Saudi prince toured Kuwaiti military installations. Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, made the following statement on the conclusion of the visit:

I would like to express my profound joy and pleasure with the visit of his Royal Highness the brother Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard of the sister Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and of the delegation which accompanied his royal highness to Kuwait.

This auspicious visit was the embodiment of fraternity and the existing and long-standing close ties between the two sister countries and fraternal peoples. The visit of His Royal Highness Brother Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to Kuwait and to his kin and brothers, who hold him dearly in their hearts, was a good opportunity to express the true affection and great fraternal appreciation for the sister Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the king, the government and the people by Kuwait, its amir, its government and its people. The visit also made it possible to hold fraternal meetings and talks which included a comprehensive review of the close historic relations between the two sister countries and the means of strengthening them in various spheres. The two sides also discussed the strengthening of their constructive cooperation within the framework of the GCC and the Arab League. We also held consultations about the present situation in the region, especially with regard to the Iraqi-Iranian war and the need to continue efforts to end the war and to stop the fighting and the bloodshed between the two Muslim neighbors. We also discussed the painful events in the Palestinian resistance movement, which is a regrettable stain on the history of our nation and a grave situation which only serves the Zionist enemy and all the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation.

The heir apparent and prime minister went on:

The meetings and talks held during this visit were distinguished by the customary spirit of fraternal cordiality and understanding between the two countries. They reflected the mutual concern of the two sides to cement the bonds between the two fraternal peoples and confirmed the coincidence of viewpoints on all issues of interest to both countries. The two sides confirmed their conviction that present conditions in the Gulf region and the Arab homeland demand more consultations, exchanges of views, and relentless efforts to achieve a common Arabian Gulf stand on restoring and strengthening Arab solidarity, without which the dangerous challenges surrounding our Arab homeland cannot be confronted. In this connection I must place on record our appreciation for the relentless efforts exerted and being exerted by the sister Kingdom of Saudi Arabia aimed at improving the situation and consolidating stability in sister Lebanon. We wish success for their genuine efforts.

In conclusion, I repeat my great joy at this fraternal meeting with His Royal Highness the brother Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the good results that his auspicious visit to this country, Kuwait, has produced at all levels. I take this opportunity to express my sincerest greetings and profound apprecition for His Majesty Brother King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, wishing the fraternal Saudi people lasting progress and prosperity. I beseech God to guide us all and to support us by his assistance and his blessing to continue work for the service of our country, peoples and nation.

Nonaligned Movement Delegation Leaves for Damascus

LD221259 Kuwait KUNA in English 1034 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 22 (KUNA) — A four-man ministerial delegation of the Non-aligned Movement left here Tuesday for Damascus on their second leg of a tour to several Arab countries to discuss the Palestinian disputes. The committee, which comprises the foreign ministers of India, Yugoslavia and Cuba in addition to the ambassador of Senegal to the United Nations, held talks with Kuwaiti Deputy Premier Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad Monday on the possibility of coordinating efforts between the six-state Gulf Cooperation Council and the Non-aligned Movement to end the Palestinian fighting in Tripoli, north Lebanon. They also discussed possible means to re-unite the Palestine Liberation Organization. The GCC groups Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. The non-aligned committee was briefed by Shaykh Sabah on the GCC states efforts to end the Palestinian conflict. Shaykh Sabah visited Damascus several times, representing the six-state GCC for the this matter.

Earlier this week the Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi, who is the president of the present Non-aligned Movement session, and eight leading non-aligned countries' foreign ministers held a meeting in New Delhi to find possible means for the movement to play a role in solving the Palestinian disputes. During the meeting the Indian premier and the eight foreign ministers took the decision to send this mission to the Middle Eastern countries. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Shaykh Sabah, the Foreign Ministry's undersecretary Rashid ar-Rashid, head of the Protocol Department in the ministry Ahmad 'Abd al-Wahid al-Ayub and the ambassadors of India, Yugoslavia, and Cuba to Kuwait.

OMAN

Interior Minister Meets Kuwaiti Counterpart

GF221424 Doha QNA in Arabic 1220 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Muscat, 22 Nov (QNA) — Omani Interior Minister Badr ibn Sa'ud ibn Harib met with Kuwaiti Interior Minister Shaykh

Nawwaf al-Ahmad al-Jabir, who arrived in Sultanate of Oman today on a 2-day visit within the framework of his current tour of a number of GCC countries. During the meeting, means to strengthen the cooperation between the two countries in various security fields were discussed.

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Yasir 'Arafat

GF221102 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The message was conveyed by Yasin ash-Sharif, PLO representative in Doha, during a meeting with his highness the amir at the Doha palace at 0930 today.

Following the meeting Ash-Sharif pointed out that the message includes a detailed explanation of the situation in northern Lebanon, especially the continuation of the heavy shelling of the town of Tripoli, and the sufferings of the Lebanese and Palestinian civilians. Ash-Sharif said that the message also conveys the regards and appreciation of 'Arafat to his highness the amir and his brothers their majesties and their highnesses, the leaders of the Arabian Gulf countries, for the last Gulf move in an attempt to stop the bloodshed, to put an end to the fighting, there, and to resort to fraternal dialogue for the purpose of resolving all differences.

In concluding his statement, Ash-Sharif said that his highness the amir had expressed his deep concern and regret over the developments of situation in northern Lebanon and affirmed Qatar's endeavor to maintain the unity of the PLO under its legitimate leadership, represented by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Sends Message to Al-Jumayyil

LD221111 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0950 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Riyadh, 22 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent a cable of greetings to President Amin al-Jumayyil, president of Lebanon, on the anniversary of his country's independence. In the name of the people, the Government of the Kingdom and himself, King Fahd has expressed heart-felt wishes for continued health and happiness to Al-Jumayyil and for security and stability to prevail in Lebanon.

Interior Minister Returns From Jordan

LD221836 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Summary] Riyadh, 22 Nov (SPA) — Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the interior minister, has returned home from Jordan where he conveyed a verbal message from King Fahd to King Husan. He was welcomed by Prince Ahmad ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy interior minister, and by a number of princes and senior civilian and military officials.

Prince 'Abdallah Returns from Kuwait, Iraq

LD222059 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1950 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 22 Nov (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz welcomed his brother Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, on his return at Riyadh airport this evening from his official visit to the State of Kuwait and his brief visit to Baghdad.

Crown Prince 'Abdallah on GCC, Iran-Iraq War

GF221300 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text of interview by Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guards to KUNA in Kuwait — date not given, read by the announcer]

[Text] [KUNA] What is your highness' evaluation of Gulf progress since the establishment of the GCC?

['Abdallah] The GCC has proven to be a suitable framework that can be expanded, can organize Gulf action, can provide Gulf countries with elements which make them powerful, provide them with the freedom of movement, and with a healthy atmosphere for reaction, integration, and development. The GCC charter has proven to be the best provisional framework for coordination and cooperation and for integrated construction in the economic, political, and defensive fields. The GCC goal has always been progress and its style is the guidance in the process of integration; as we know it is a process of construction. The GCC does not mean the end of the movement toward comprehensive Arab unity or averting it. It means that this is a prime stage in the series of stages toward attaining the goal of unity. Unity is a process of development and not a chaotic process. It is not crystallized but inherited.

[KUNA] The Peninsula Shield maneuvers last month were the beginning of a de facto military coordination among the armies of the GCC countries. Now this is followed by air maneuvers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. What is the role planned for the joint Gulf forces? Is there any intention to form a unified Gulf force? What will be the aims of this force in the event of its formation?

['Abdallah] I said earlier the GCC is the framework of coordination and cooperation in all fields. Undoubtedly, the military field is one of these fields. Therefore, any maneuvers and coordination in the field of weapons and training in addition to exchange of information and expertise among the Gulf Armed Forces comes in response to the GCC charter. The Peninsula Shield maneuvers scientifically consecrated this response and this is the actual beginning of practical coordination and cooperation in the military field.

As for your question with regard to a designed plan for the Gulf countries, the answer is axiomatic and clear. Defending the Gulf countries against any aggression is part of defending the Arab nation vis-a-vis all aggression. There is not any place in the Gulf which the Gulf countries cannot efficiently and effectively defend. There is no side more capable of protecting the Gulf territories than the peoples of the Gulf. We believe that any work that lacks genuineness will not definitely lead to the independence of a country, to sovereignty of a state, and to the dignity of its people. As for whether there is any intention to form a unified Gulf force, I would like to say that the current GCC charter is not the final goal, but it is the base and the cornerstone for attaining the dearest goals and aspirations. Finally, as I said earlier, I answered your question on the goals of the Gulf force once it is formed.

[KUNA] What various efforts have been taken to end the Iraqi-Iranian war? This war dissipates all the energies of Iraq and Iran and provides the way for foreign interference in the Gulf region.

['Abdallah] It is not a secret that various international, Islamic and Arab sides have exerted, and still do, the utmost efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian tragedy. What takes place today between Iran and Iraq is not a war but it is an insanity that erupts in the forms of arrogance and conceit, thus exposing the region to the most serious situations. This not only threatens to destroy what these people have built up through hard work but also consumes their resources. This suicidal attrition has begun to threaten their independence. We were extremely delighted when fraternal Iraq announced the withdrawal of its forces from Iranian territories, and announced its readiness for peace and willingness to solve its problems with sisterly Iran through peaceful channels. We awaited reaction to Iraq's initiative in an Islamic and brotherly manner. We are still waiting, as we will always do, for it. We profoundly believe that the doctrine of the Muslim will be victorious in the end over rancorous differences and rancerous reaction.

[KUNA] Reports say that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has made attempts to convince Syria to intercede with Iran to have it accept a cease-fire in its war with Iraq.

['Abdallah] The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will never stop exerting all efforts and attempts to end this horrible flow of Iraqi-Iranian blood. The genuine victory cannot be represented in the victory of one side and the defeat of the other. Victory can only be attained through the preservation of Muslim blood. There is nothing among Muslims as defeated and victorious. The victor is only victorious through evil and whoever attains victory through evil is vanquished according to Imam 'Ali ibn Abi Tali, may he be blessed.

[KUNA] Numerous differences which are spliting the Arab homeland prevented the convention of the 13th summit conference in the Kingdom this month. What is the possibility of achieving a minimum level of cooperation to ensure the convention and minimum success of the summit.

['Abdallah] One of the most ridiculous matters in our Arab world is that there are severe differences which are dividing the Arab homeland as I said, but I, as well as the average Arab citizen, cannot decipher what issues the Arabs are differing. Can any ruler or citizen determine the differences between one Arab country and another? Is there one single difference in one of the Arab nation's major goals? Have we not been able for a long time to end the argument concerning the difference on the unity of ranks and unity of objectives? I personally, as a citizen and official, do not see an objective difference among all the Arab peoples and I do not see one difference which we can describe as a marginal difference. Thus, I do not see a justification for truces or concessions. A truce or concession is made between warring or conflicting parties on an issue or a goal. But when there is no issue or a goal on a difference or dispute, then such a difference becomes a reaction of moods and caprice. A matter which does not agree with the mentality of a state official or with the leading citizen's conscience and is rejected by the morals of a good citizen.

[KUNA] In light of the current Egyptian rapprochment to a number of Arab countries and the news about attempts to improve relations between Egypt and Sudan on one hand and between [Egypt] and Libya on the other hand, is there a possibility of inviting Egypt to the Arab summit?

['Abdallah] The measures which were taken against Egypt following the Camp David accords came as a result of summit conference resolutions. Thus, the only proper side which can amend, alter, or cancel them is the Arab summit, knowing that the Egyptian people are noble in their Arabism, Islamic religion, and feelings and are brothers of the Arab peoples. We cannot forget Egypt's human and military capability and its position in our Arab history.

[KUNA] What are your expectations regarding the solution of the Lebanese crisis?

['Abdallah] The Lebanese problem can only be solved by the Lebanese. I am convinced that Lebanese ingenuity will unite its homeland and people and will restore Lebanon's capability to play its wellknown Arab role, will prove to everyone that the gun has never been an arbiter between brother citizens, that trade with the blood of innocents is a hopeless trade, and that resumption of non-sectarianism is the firm base for Lebanon, its people, and regime. Arabism is power for Lebanon and not a power on Lebanon. All of us need to help Lebanon in order to release it from its misfortune and construct what was destroyed by the civil war.

[KUNA] The GCC countries made great efforts to halt Palestinian bloodshed in north Lebanon. However, the bloody fight still continues. Does not your highness believe that there is a great need to hold an urgent Arab summit to adopt decisive measures to halt the fight?

['Abdallah] Whatever happened and is happening between the Palestinian brothers cannot be accepted or justified by logic or history. There is no cause for which the Arab nation has made such human and financial sacrifices as for the fraternal Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause. Since the Balfour Declaration — for over 65 years — the Arab and Islamic world did not give that generosity so that a colonel or a brigadier can carry out a military coup against the authority which is loyal to the

Palestinian cause, represented by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Those who try to sacrifice the cause of their country efface the identity of their people, volunteer to realize the aims of their Israeli enemy, trample upon their cause — land, people, and identity — bombard with their cannons and rockets the women, children, and elderly, and trespass any concept of treachery, baseness, or subordination to a stage which cannot be described or limited. The occupation of a camp or two camps or numerous camps will not uproot the role of the Palestinian cause from the conscience of the Arab nation, give legitimacy to the illegitimacy, make the usurper a leader or the one who weeps to a bereaved mother, and there is a kind of a rage in what I said previously. It is the rage of a citizen. I am a Muslim and a citizen before being an official.

[KUNA] Does the Kingdom intend to establish any relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries?

['Abdallah] Saudi Arabia has no such intention currently. However, such matters are dealt with at the proper time.

[KUNA] We heard that the Saudi leadership intends to establish a consultative council in the Kingdom. Have there been any preparatory steps adopted in this regard?

['Abdallah] His majesty the king has talked about this issue on various occasions. I do not have anything else to add to whatever his majesty said.

[KUNA] Saudi Arabia plays a prominent role in Arab, Islamic, and international assemblies, which necessitates a developed media enjoying a freedom to confront the hostile media. What is your highness' view on the steps to enable the Saudi media to carry out its task in this regard?

['Abdallah] I do not think that there is a better means than the coordination of Gulf media and the unity of their subjects, styles, purposes, and cooperation with the Arab media at all levels, in various fields. Thus, I believe in the establishment of a Gulf media council to aim at the establishment of a general council for Arab media within the Arab and Islamic world and out of it.

UAE

Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives in UAE

GF222030 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1940 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 22 Nov (WAKH) — Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Tunisian minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Abu Dhabi from Tunis tonight on 4-day visit to the UAE. He was received by Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs; a number of officials at the ministry and Mohsen Frini, Tunisian ambassador to the UAE.

PDRY

Presidium Chairman Receives PFLP Official

GF221720 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office at the Secretariat of the Central Committee this morning Brother Abu al-'Abd, candidate member of the PFLP Political Bureau. During the meeting the struggle relations between the YSP and the PFLP and the ways to strengthen and develop them were discussed in addition to the current developments in the Palestinian arena.

The brother secretary general affirmed the necessity of strengthening the struggle of the Arab national and progressive powers and the unification of their ranks and mobilization of their capabilities to confront the imperialist and Zionist attacks which the Arab national liberation movement is confronting. He noted the new dangers threatening the Arab peoples due to the escalation of the hostile military activities of the imperialist military forces which impose their existence over the territories of certain Arab countries in order to restore the imperialist hegemony in the region.

For his part, Brother Abu al-'Abd lauded the principled stances of the PDRY on the Arab liberation causes and its active role in the Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He hailed the efforts made by our country as party, people, and government, to overcome the difficulties which confront the Arab national liberation movement and strengthen the unity of its factions.

Mubarak Receives Cables From Qabus, Husayn

NC221240 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a cable of thanks from Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id in reply to the message which President Mubarak sent earlier to congratulate Sultan Qabus on Oman's national day. President Mubarak has also received a cable of thanks from His Majesty King Husayn ibn Tallal, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in reply to the congratulatory cable which President Mubarak sent to him on his birthday. The president also received a cable from the families of Palestinian martyrs and strugglers living in Kuwait, expressing their thanks and gratitude for Egypt's support to the Palestinian legitimacy.

Ad-Din Urges Powers To Keep 'Hands Off Lebanon'

NC221747 Cairo MENA in English 1725 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Cairo, Nov. 22 (MENA) — Premier Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din called on all foreign powers to keep their hands off Lebanon and enable the Lebanese people to achieve their territorial sovereignty. This came today during the first seminar organized by the National Democratic Party NDP Youth Secretariat to conduct a dialogue on the recent speech of President Husni Mubarak which dealt with Egypt's commitment to a just and comprehensive Middle East peace. NDP Assistant Secretary-General Muhammad Rajab said that the youth declared at the end of the meeting their support for the policy of President Mubarak at the domestic and foreign levels and lauded Egypt's political and diplomatic efforts which made it win the membership of the Security Council. The youth also pledged to stand by President Mubarak and exert strong efforts for the success of the five-year development plan.

'Ali Says Relations With 'Arafat 'Not Severed'

GF230955 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Doha, 23 Nov (WAKH) — Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has announced that relations between Egypt and the Arab states have moved from the stage of consultation to the stage of actual coordination and agreement on defined policies regarding national and international issues. He said: "The Egyptian-Israeli treaty has not prevented Egypt from fulfilling its pan-Arab obligations." Mr Kamal Hasan 'Ali also said that relations between Egypt and Mr Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, are not severed and that consultations between Egypt, various Arab parties, and other concerned parties to preserve the PLO have not been stopped. He explained that the situation is now dependent on the result of the fighting because the situation will crystallize further. He indicated that Egypt had advised the Palestinian leader to be firm in his stands and to define his policies through the PLO Executive Committee and through the PNC.

In a statement published today in the Qatari newspaper *AR-RAYAH*, the Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister disclosed that the Jordanian officials informed him that a Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue will begin. He said Egypt welcomes this dialogue. Asked what Egypt's stand would be if Syria were to be subjected to a U.S. aggression, he said: "Egypt sent a clear message to the United States on this matter. Egypt's stand is that the military escalation of the situation in the region will serve no one and will lead to further violence." He noted that the situation is full of all sorts of possibilities and may result in a military escalation. Therefore, all parties should be careful during this critical stage. The Egyptian minister also spoke about his visits to a number of Arab capitals, the last of which was Rabat. He said that all the visits were aimed at coordination in dealing with the current Arab situations, especially in Lebanon and the strife that is going on in the north.

Air Force Receives 4 Alpha Jet Aircraft

NC222124 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpts] Toulouse, 22 Nov (MENA) — The Egyptian Air Force today received four Alpha Jet MS-2 aircraft. A celebration on this occasion was observed at the Dassault factories. (Dinois), director of the Dassault factories, said Egypt has ordered 20 to 22 Alpha Jets, adding that the remaining part of the consignment will be manufactured in the Egyptian aircraft factories, which also have an assembly line for this kind of aircraft.

King Husayn Arrives in Baghdad 23 Nov
JN231232 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1214 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA) — His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan, together with a delegation, arrived in Baghdad today on a visit to Iraq at President Saddam Husayn's invitation. The king and his delegation were accorded an official welcome and were received on arrival by President Saddam Husayn. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, as well as a number of other RCC members and ministers took part in the ceremony.

The king is accompanied by an official delegation which includes Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash, and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd.

Communique 1,288: 109 Iranians Killed 19-20 Nov
JN221736 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Communique No 1,288 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 November 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces are continuing their activities in the operations sectors, and have scored brilliant victories against the forces of the rancorous Khomeyniite clique. The following results were achieved yesterday evening and today:

1. Our forward units sighted an enemy troop concentration facing their own positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. They pounded the enemy with all sorts of weapons, killing five while wounding and capturing many more. Enemy casualties sustained during the battles on the night of 19-20 November in positions facing one of our units in the Panjwin sector total 109 dead and a great number of prisoners. They also lost a considerable quantity of serviceable light and medium weapons.

2. Our forward units pounded an enemy troop concentration which they encountered in the Maysan sector with all types of weapons, killing six and destroying one infantry position.

3. Three were killed east of Basra.

4. The clique of evil and rancor shelled Mandali, Ash-Shihabi, Say id Sadiq, and the areas surrounding each of these places today. One woman in Mandali was wounded.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 November 1983

Army Corps Commander on Recent Iranian Offensive
JN221017 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0808 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA) — The staff brigadier general commanding the I Army Corps has asserted that the Iranian enemy was unable to attain any of the stated military and political aims during his recent offensive. In a statement issued today to the newspaper *AL-QADISIYAH*, he noted that the Iranian enemy has sustained a new round of heavy casualties, which must be added to the more than 10,000 dead suffered by the enemy in the Panjwin area.

The brigadier general pointed out that the front along which the Iranian forces launched their attack from 10 directions was 20 km wide. He affirmed that they did not realize a single objective from any direction due to the valiant Iraqi forces, who successfully confronted the Iranian assault and, at 0745 on 20 November, were able to decide the situation in their favor and destroy the aggressive forces of Iran.

Composition of Iranian Forces in Panjwin Noted
JN22094' Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA) The brigadier general in command of the Al-Mansur forces has declared that the Iranian enemy deployed five divisions in his latest attack on Iraqi units in the Panjwin sector. Of these, three were irregular units, while the others included the 28th Division, a brigade from the 21st Division, and the so-called Salman Fighting Force, which is in fact a brigade. He added that the enemy employed 15 artillery battalions in the attack. The concentrated enemy artillery barrage sought to weaken Iraq's defensive capability.

In a statement issued today to *ATH-THAWRAH*, the brigadier general noted that the strong determination of the Iraqi forces allowed them to contain and halt the enemy attack through skillful maneuvering. Reserve units wiped out groups of Iranians who were positioned in valleys and dense forests. On the night of 19-20 November, our forces launched their counterattack along all axes, completely destroying the entire enemy force. The battle was decided in Iraq's favor at dawn.

The Iraqi commander said that large quantities of serviceable Iranian weapons and hardware remain on the battlefield and that the Iraqi units are planning to recover them. He praised the Iraqi artillery, helicopters, and Air Force, all of which were instrumental in achieving victory in the northern sector of the battlefield.

Saudi Crown Prince Arrives 22 November
JN221749 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA) — His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and commander of the Saudi National Guard, arrived here this afternoon for a short visit to Iraq.

The Saudi crown prince is accompanied by Education Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Khuwaytir, Planning Minister Hisham Muhyi ad-Din Nazir, and Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz at-Tuwayjiri, deputy commander of the Saudi National Guard.

Received by Saddam Husayn

JN221818 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received Saudi Crown Prince His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this evening. The prince, who is also commander of the Saudi National Guard, was accompanied by a delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the latest developments in the Arab situation, relations between the two fraternal countries, the possibility of consolidating Arab cooperation, and recent developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war. The meeting was attended by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim and Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister.

Departs 22 November

JN221909 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1755 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Nov (INA) — His Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and Commander of the Saudi National Guard, ended his brief visit to Iraq and left Baghdad this evening. The Saudi crown prince and his accompanying delegation were seen off by RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, and Sa'dun Shakir, RCC member and interior minister. The Saudi crown prince arrived here from Kuwait this afternoon.

Tariq 'Aziz Returns From USSR Visit 22 Nov

JN221823 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Baghdad this afternoon following a visit of several days to the USSR. During his stay, he held talks with Soviet officials on bilateral relations and developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Saddam Receives Letter From 'Soviet Leadership'

JN231200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1136 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received a letter from the Soviet leadership dealing with bilateral relations and the regional situation. Viktor Minin, Soviet ambassador to Baghdad, delivered the letter to the president when they met here this morning.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting along with the president's secretary.

Egyptian Reconstruction Official Arrives

JN230908 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0744 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA) — A delegation led by Husayn Sharabi, under secretary of the Egyptian Ministry of Housing and Reconstruction [name and title as received], arrived in Baghdad last night. Their visit to Iraq, which is scheduled to last several days, is aimed at promoting bilateral relations, particularly in the field of construction.

Ramadan Meets With Pakistani Minister 22 Nov

JN230915 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0742 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Nov (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Pakistani minister of finance, commerce, and planning last night. They discussed the sincere desire of both countries to expand and promote bilateral cooperation to a level commensurate with their historical relations.

Husayn Departs For Talks With Saddam Husayn in Iraq
LD231128 Kuwait KUNA in English 1103 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Amman, Nov 23 (KUNA) — King Husayn of Jordan left here Wednesday for Baghdad on an unscheduled visit for talks with President Saddam Husayn on developments in the region. King Husayn, who is accompanied by a high level delegation will also discuss developments of the Palestinian cause in general, in addition to promotion of bilateral relations. Prime Minister Mudar Badran, chief of the Royal Diwan Ahmad al-Lawzi, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash and a number of senior officials are making up the royal Jordanian delegation to Iraq.

Prime Minister Receives Saudi Interior Minister
JN221324 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office this morning Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. During the meeting, they discussed the bilateral relations between the two countries in various fields. Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the Saudi ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Minister Leaves Amman 22 Nov
JN221950 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] His Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi Interior minister, left Amman this afternoon following a 3-day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Husayn, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, and high- ranking Jordanian officials. In a statement before his departure from Amman airport, he expressed satisfaction with the results of this visit and said that he is carrying a message from His Majesty King Husayn in reply to the message which he brought to him from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He added that he had discussed with high-ranking Jordanian officials matters of common concern by the two brotherly countries. He expressed hope that such meetings would recur between Jordanian and Saudi officials. Interior Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, who was at the head of Jordanian officials bidding farewell to the Saudi guest, said that the talks aimed at strengthening joint cooperation between the two brotherly countries. The under secretary of interior, the director of public security, the director of civil defense, the governor of Amman, the Saudi ambassador in Amman, Saudi Embassy staff, and a number of senior officials saw the Saudi prince off at the airport.

Foreign Minister Al-Qasim AL-MAJALLAH Interview
PM221522 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 19-25 Nov 83 pp 21-22

[Interview with Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim by Huda al-Murr in Amman — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Have there been any fresh contacts or attempts to revive the Reagan initiative, bearing in mind that the initiative was hampered in the first place by Israeli intransigence and disinterest?

Answer: Of course, Israel did hamper the initiative when it rejected it. Jordan, however, is committed and will continue to be committed and will continue to be committed to the latest Fes Arab summit resolutions which confirmed the Arab collective approach to peace in the Middle East, based on certain foundations and principles derived from the UN General Assembly and Security Council resolutions.

Question: Are there any positive aspects that may be taken into consideration?

Answer: Of course. The following sums up the positive points we detected in the Reagan initiative: Unitil the Reagan initiative was made we regarded other moves to be inadquate because the ultimate objective is the establishment of peace through peace initiatives. When the Reagan initiative was put forward we said that it had some positive aspects, although some points needed explanation and confirmation. Looking at some parts of the intiative we see a reference to Resolution 242 which calls for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, which is what the Arabs have been requesting and what was agreed uponwith the PLO in Fes.

Question: There have been numerous dialogues and even more contacts between you and Egypt. What positive results have come out of these Egyptian-Jordanian overtures?

Answer: Husni Mubarak's Egypt is different from As-Sadat's Egypt when it comes to political issues. The present Egyptian position is not different from the position of any other Arab state, particularly under the present circumstances wherein the Arab nation is faced with serious situations affecting its destiny.

Question: Will Egypt's return to the Arab fold be discussed by the upcoming Arab summit conference?

Answer: Jordan's position on Egypt, adopted in 1978, is one of commitment and adherence to the Arab summit conference resolutions. A collective Arab position was adopted unanimously. If the resolution is to be reconsidered, it must be by a similar Arab decision at the same level.

Question: Will the next Arab summit conference discuss any new issues, or will Jordan submit any new programs?

Answer: Jordan has some very urgent issues which must be discussed with all the Arab brothers, who must be fully aware of the seriousness and magnitude of the perils facing Jordan at present. What affects Jordan will definitely affect the rest of the Arab world in the future. Jordan's program for the resistance of Israeli aggression must be provided with all the necessary elements to ensure its effectiveness against Israeli expansion and aggression. We hope that the conference results will not remain as unimplemented resolutions. Some did not adhere to our honor previous resolutions.

Question: What is your opinion of what is happening in Lebanon? Is Lebanon heading for partition?

Answer: We pray to God that may never happen. We should here remember that years ago King Husayn contacted, pleaded with, and pressed all the Lebanese sides to achieve a Lebanese-Lebanese accord. His main concern was that the Lebanese house be put in order. The failure to achieve accord opened the way for Arab and non-Arab interference which is not in Lebanon's interest and which may even have more serious negative consequences.

Question: Would a partition of Lebanon alter the map of the Arab region?

Answer: A victory by any Lebanese group against another would be in the interest of Israel, whose basic aim is to divide the states around it. It supports one side against another in order to fulfill its dream of dividing the Arab world.

Question: Are there ary attempts to bridge the gap between the Jordanian and Syrian views?

Answer: Actually Jordan has on various occasions explained the dangers which, in its opinion, threaten Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, and the Palestinians. We have always done that and we will continue to do it. Jordan has not ignored any signal or attempt to initiate a constructive dialogue to safeguard Jordan, and any other Arab state, against the Israeli threat. Jordan has adopted clear policies on fateful issues which affect Jordan as well as its neighboring states. Our position is clear. If that is the cause of the disagreement, then let us discuss it at a bilateral, pan-Arab or any other level, so that ultimately Arab priorities may take precedence over everything else.

Question: How do you view the recent attacks on Jordanian diplomats abroad?

Answer: Jordan has in fact been the target of such operations in the past and it has had martyrs. Today, Jordan will not back down from its principled positions, whatever the cost. The assassination policy only serves Israel. I do not think that Arab ethics or Arab interests benefit from these assassinations. Such actions only weaken Jordan, which has the longest front with Israel. Jordan, before anyone else, is the target. If whoever is carrying out these operations is an Arab then we wish he would make efforts to strengthen Jordan, not weaken it, because Jordan ultimately protects itself and would protect all states in the Arab east if necessary.

Question: Does this mean that in the event of an Israeli aggression against Syria, Jordan would intervene on Syria's side?

Answer: Any sincere Arab dealing with Jordan would be met with maximum sincerity and a national response from Jordan. This has been the case throughout Jordan's history. Jordan has never failed to support its Arab brothers. In 1973, when we went to the Goaln, we did so in support of Syria in its fight against the Zionist enemy. This of course is a national duty. This concept forms the basis of Jordan's relations with and consistent policies toward its Arab brothers. These are not seasonal or tactical relations. They are strategic, deep-rooted and continuous relations.

Question: Are there any signs that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue will be resumed?

Answer:—Assuming that the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue did stop, it was not we who stopped it. If one looks for the real reasons for the suspension one may then begin to understand the Palestinian tragedy.

Question: Is there any possibility of a resumption of the dialogue after what has happened within the PLO?

Answer: We must remember Jordan's special interest in the Palestinian cause and in the call for the fulfillment of the Palestinian people's rights. Jordan's connection with the cause is much stronger than any connection between the Palestinians and any other state. That is why the dialogue between us is continuous and permanent.

Iraqi Official Winds Up Visit to Amman

JN211812 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] 'Ismat Kittani, Iraqi under secretary of foreign affairs, today concluded his visit to Jordan and left for San'a within his Arab tour.

In a statement to INA before his departure, the under secretary of foreign affairs said that he and Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim discussed the current developments in the Arab and international arenas. He added that during the meeting with the Jordanian minister they discussed the necessary means to save the deteriorating Arab situation and the ways to support cooperation between both countries in the joint political work aimed at healing the split in the current Arab relations.

Reportage on Visiting Canadian Delegation

Prince Hasan Receives Delegation

JN221852 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan Received in his office this morning the visiting Canadian parliamentary delegation. His highness explained to the delegation the situation in the Middle East and recent developments in the Arab arena in general, and the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular, as well as Israel's expansionist and settlement policy in the occupied territories. The Canadian ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Commander in Chief Receives Delegation

JN222100 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Staff lieutenant General Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, this morning received the visiting Canadian parliamentary delegation. The meeting was attended by the Canadian ambassador in Amman.

Senate, NCC Officials See Delegation

JN222058 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] President of the Senate Ahmad at-Tarawinah today met with the Canadian Parliamentary delegation. He explained the current situation in the region affirming that Israel's repeated aggressions, its rejection of all peace initiatives and the numerous UN resolutions, its continued building of settlements in the occupied Arab territories, and its eviction of the Arabs, the original inhabitants of the country, are the causes behind the deteriorating situation in the Middle East. He added that Israel is thus violating all international laws and norms. He affirmed that Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn who is witnessing all aspects of the Palestine question, believes that there cannot be a real and just solution in this region but through Israel's full withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and the recognition of the legitimaterights of the Palestinian people, particularly their rights to self-determination on the soil of their land in Palestine. He praised the Arab-Canadian relations and their development for the better, referring to the Canadian parliamentary committee and its efforts to understand the problems of this region, which consequently will lead to the establishment of close cooperation in various fields for the benefit of the two friendly countries.

Sulayman 'Arar, speaker of the National Consultative Council [NCC], also met with the Canadian Parliamentary delegation and emphasized to them that all the problems in the region, including that of Lebanon, emanate from the Palestine question which is the core of the Middle East conflict. He noted that unless a solution to the Palestine question is found peace in the Middle East will remain subejct to threats. He said: Our great concern is for the increasing Israeli force which is supported by the United States.

The two meetings were attended by a number of the Senate and NCC members, the Canadian ambassador in Amman, and the Senate's secretary general.

AR-RA'Y: Palestinian Delegation To Leave for Tripoli

JN230748 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 23 Nov 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — A Popular delegation, comprising 60 representatives of all the camps and other areas in Jordan where Palestinians are present, will leave for Tripoli tomorrow. The delegation supports Palestinian legitimacy under Yasir 'Arafat and shares with him his steadfastness in the face of the Syrian-Libyan aggression against the Palestinian people.

Al-Jumayyil Addresses Military on Anniversary

NC221941 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has pledged to the Army that the next Independence Day anniversary will be celebrated in the An-Nabatiyah barracks in the south and in the Ash-Shaykh 'Abdallah barracks in Ba'labakk. He expressed the hope that by next year all Lebanon — from the north to the Al-Biqa' and from the coast to the mountain — will be liberated. In a speech he delivered yesterday in the Henry Shihab Barracks in Beirut, President al-Jumayyil said that the Army has been the greatest and the most important challenge to the plot against Lebanon and its people. He said: O soldiers, you have affirmed that the people have only one community, namely Lebanon. Addressing the soldiers, President al-Jumayyil said:

O heroes of Lebanon, you will be the instrument of liberation and you will be the challenge that will triumph over the attempts to divide Lebanon and its people. He said the Army is the foundation of Lebanon of the future, and the Army will be the spearhead in the battle for the liberation of the land and people of the one Lebanon — a sovereign Lebanon — in which there is neither discrimination between one person and another nor between one community and another. President al-Jumayyil said: We are now at a crossroad. Some are attempting to distort Lebanon's image and to suggest that there is a civil war in Lebanon. However, by merely meeting and talking at the Geneva dialogue conference we have confirmed to those far and near that Lebanon is one community, and we have also affirmed the unity of the people and their will to live in harmony and peace.

Mufti Sends Delegation to Damascus for Talks

NC221330 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the republic, today sent a delegation to Damascus to meet with former Prime Minister Rashid Karami and senior Syrian officials and hold consultations on the situation in Tripoli to seek an end to the current deterioration.

RFL Says Relations With YAR, Libya, Iran Severed

NC221309 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpt] It has been officially announced that Lebanon has severed its diplomatic relations with the YAR, Libya, and Iran and has recalled its ambassadors and the diplomatic and administrative cadres from the capitals of these three states. Furthermore, well informed sources have mentioned that Lebanon will take similar steps soon if diplomatic contacts do not result in convincing other capitals, mostly Arab ones, of withdrawing their gunmen from Lebanon. Lebanon has taken this step on the premise of showing absolutely no indulgence when it comes to matters connected with Lebanese sovereignty. This step, which has been shrouded in secrecy, follows the moves that Lebanese diplomacy had made through the central administration with the Beirut representatives of San'a', Tripoli, Libya, and Tehran so that these representatives would convey to their governments the need for withdrawing their gunmen from the Al-Biqa', the north, and the mountain area.

While making these moves, the Lebanese Foreign Ministry put on record its repudiation of the entry of these gunmen into Lebanese territory and of their participation in the attacks and the military operations that are going on in the Al-Biqa' and in Tripoli. The Foreign Ministry's moves had reached the extent of warning and cautioning that, should the present grave situation further deteriorate, it would result in the severance of diplomatic relations between Lebanon and the above-menitoned states. The sources add that, once Lebanon had ascertained that these capitals were not desirous of ceasing their actual and tangible intervention in Lebanon's affairs, the Lebanese Foreign Ministry conveyed Lebanon's decision to the representatives of the three states.

Security Committee Fails To Meet 22 Nov

NC221556 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The Security Arrangements Committee did not hold its scheduled meeting today because the National Salvation Front's representative did not attend. The representative informed the committee that his route was unsafe; however, the other representatives did arrive. A responsible security source said that the route of the National Salvation Front's representative was safe and that no incident was reported along that route. The Lebanese Front's representative demanded that the timeframe for the committee's meetings be adhered to because the matter is affecting the various security situations. The Army's representative said the delay in establishing the permanent headquarters will delay or perhaps hinder the efforts being made by numerous sides to bring about calm and pave the way for the second round of the Geneva conference.

Officials from the British contingent command of the Multinational Force are making preparations for their force's participation in guarding the permanent headquarters of the Security Arrangements Committee at the Trad Bank. The Army's representative will make the necessary contacts with other representatives to ensure tomorrow's meeting.

RFL Updates Security Situation in Various Areas

NC222110 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2045 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Junblatt's armed men are still continuing their attacks on the Lebanese Army positions in the mountain, thus violating two cease-fire agreements at 2100 and 2200 respectively. Security reports said shells are falling on 'Ayn Ksur, 'Ayn Drafil, 'Aramun, Kayfun, Qabr Shmun, Kafr Matta, Al-Kahhalah, 'Arayya, Kafr Shima, and the periphery of the Science College. A security source has affirmed that the shelling is coming from 'Alayh, 'Aramun, Baysur, Shimlan, and Ash-Shuwayfat. The Lebanese Army is returning fire with artillery and other weapons and is scoring direct hits among the gunmen's positions, particularly in Baysur where 12 Socialists were wounded, including 4

seriously. We have been informed that Dayr al-Qamar is being subjected to intensive fire from 23-mm antiarmor weapons in B'aqlin and Bayt ad-Din.

In another development, violent clashes are now raging between the Lebanese Army positions on the one hand and the positions of the Communist-Khomeynite alliance on the other. The clashes are raging on the Post Office-Flour Mills-Sannin axes [in Beirut]. A number of shells fell on 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Furn ash-Shubbak.

Israelis Close Al-Awwali Crossing Point

NC231021 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Israeli forces closed the Al-Awwali river crossing point after shots from automatic weapons were heard in the area. Security sources said the Israeli forces closed the road to traffic from and to the south and detained about 100 people at the Al-Awwali bridge during the shooting. The Israeli forces have adopted strict security measures stipulating that travelers must secure travel permits from Israeli military offices. These measures caused wide-scale protests. Israel justified its move by indicating that it has received information that a vehicle loaded with explosives intends to cross the bridge.

Warplanes 'Raiding' Positions Around Ba'labakk

NC231141 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1128 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reported a short while ago that warplanes have been raiding some positions on the perimeter of Ba'labakk for the past 6 minutes.

Aircraft Raid Unconfirmed

NC231151 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1142 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] We have just received the following:

Planes are flying over the mountain. The sound of strafing has been heard for some time now. The nature of this sound is not clear yet. Is it the result of breaking the sound barrier or is it the result of strafing by the planes which are flying in the area? Security sources have not yet been able to confirm all this, albeit some reports said the aircraft are strafing some Lebanese areas, particularly in the Ba'labakk area. However, as I have already said, security sources have not confirmed these reports.

AL-MUSTAQBAL Interviews Syria's Khaddam

JN221338 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 19 Nov 83 pp 14-15

[Interview with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by *AL-MUSTAQBAL* correspondent Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh in Damascus — date not specified]

[Text] *AL-MUSTAQBAL:* At the Lebanese reconciliation conference in Geneva you said that Syria was a partner and not an observer, something which created a great controversy. Did you really mean that Syria was a party in the reconciliation?

Khaddam: At the conference, I did not say that Syria was a partner. It was an observer. But when the issue of the 17 May agreement was presented, I said that Syria was a party and a side in the conference. This is because everything related to the Arab-Israeli struggle is of concern to every Arab state, and particularly to us. Therefore, I said that we were a side in any issue related to the Arab-Israeli struggle.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Do you believe that the Geneva conference has achieved anything?

Khaddam: I think that the Geneva conference has made positive steps. The first thing is the decision on Lebanon's identity. Naturally this issue is a foregone conclusion, because nobody doubts Lebanon's Arabism. It is an Arab country, and nobody can cancel its Arabism despite the presence of persons and individuals whose ideas contradict reality. The decision on this issue will play an important role in the future phase of the national dialogue process. The second thing is the discusion of the 17 May agreement. I also believe that great progress has been achieved in this issue in the interests of the national dialogue.

AL-MUSTAQABAL: Was the conference suspended at Syria's request or at the request of Saudi Arabia?

Khaddam: It was at the request of neither. The nature of the discussions and the conference's program demanded this suspension.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Are you optimistic or pessimistic? Will the national dialogue conference succeed or reach a deadlock?

Khaddam: The situation is complex. There are several factors — Lebanese, regional, and international factors. What calls for optimism is that the Lebanese parties are determined to save the country. In my opinion, Lebanon has had enough disasters and pains. The Lebanese disasters should prompt everyone to move toward national reconciliation. What I heard from the Lebanese sides during the Geneva conference gave me the impression that everybody wants deliverance. This in itself constitutes an element of optimism.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: After the suspension of the conference, we heard press reports from this or that side giving the impression that the return to Geneva will be a return for a meeting of deaf people. What do you say to this?

Khaddam: I said that what has been realized is a major step forward. There is a national split. The various parties have basic differences that have not been completely resolved. Therefore, it is natural to hear or read about differences in what this or that party says. This is a natural thing.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: The U.S. and Israeli threats against Syria have increased following the explosions at the U.S. Marines' Headquarters, the French unit's headquarters in Beirut, and the Israeli military governor's headquarters in Tyre. Do you think that these threats are serious?

Khaddam: The present indications show serious threats of aggression. Naturally, when we see such indications we should not ignore the possibility of aggression. The U.S. officials' repeated statements, the rabid campaign against Syria by 'Arafat's circles, and the Israeli threats are indications that make us take the possibility of aggression seriously and make us prepare ourselves. The measures we took and the measures that we will take are within our legitimate defense. There is an Israeli mobilization call and there are the U.S. fleet's moves toward the Mediterranean. There are also threats. These things forced us to take a possible attack seriously.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: With regards to the clamor raised by the United States and Israel over the sophisticated Soviet weapons which Syria possesses, particularly the sophisticated SS-21 missiles, do you believe that the Soviets will be sincere in defending Syria in case there is an attack against it?

Khaddam: The responsibility for defending Syria is the responsibility of the Syrian people alone. We never imagined at any time that anyone other than the sons of this country would defend it. We, however, are also confident that the USSR will fulfill its commitments under the treaty of friendship that was concluded between the two countries.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: It has been rumored in Paris and other capitals that the Soviet experts will withdraw from Syria. How true are these rumors?

Khaddam: We are in a position to deny these rumors in part and parcel. Our relations with the USSR are strong and cannot be affected by a cheap media campaign.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: What were the results of your sudden visit to Moscow and your talks with Andrei Gromyko?

Khaddam: We discussed bilateral relations and the new political developments in the Middle East and the world.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: As you know the topic of the hour is the events in northern Lebanon. We heard that the GCC summit had succeeded in organziing a cease-fire. Do you believe that this will be the end of the matter and do you believe that Yasir 'Arafat's arrival in Tripoli was behind this fighting?

Khaddam: Yasir 'Arafat did not leave for Tripoli to go fishing off the coast. Let us ask ourselves why he came to Tripoli while the mountain battles were at their peak and the Lebanese nationalists were fighting in the mountain? Why did 'Arafat make

statements saying that he was fighting in the mountain? Are these statements not a message or an invitation to the Israelis to interfere in the fighting? 'Arafat arrived in Tripoli. Has he forgotten what he did in Beirut for 8 years? Does he want to repeat in Tripoli what he did in Beirut during the past 8 years? What has Tripoli done to deserve this, this city which has offered much to the Palestinian and Arab cause? What have the sons of Tripoli done to have 'Arafat come and confiscate their city and transform it into a battlefield, they who have always supported the national and pan-Arab course? What offense have the sons of Tripoli committed to have 'Arafat come and purchase and lease scores of buildings in Tripoli? Does Abu 'Ammar believe that Tripoli is the gateway to Palestine? What have the sons of Tripoli done to have us put them in this difficult position? 'Arafat would have been welcomed by Tripoli but why did he bring these large quantities of weapons to Tripoli? Is Tripoli located on the borders of Palestine so that he can mass a large force in it in preparation for a confrontation with Israel? Then why has he done all this? I do not believe he wants to confront Israel because had he wanted to do so he would not have come to Tripoli.

A Palestinian leader who wants to fight Israel would never put himself in a position of discord with a country which has built its economy, army, and society on the basis of a confrontation with Israel. Had 'Arafat wanted to fight Israel he would not have waged this campaign of slander against the Syrian Army, the Army which fought to defend Abu 'Ammar in Beirut. Abu 'Ammar knows very well where his group was at the time. Yes, there were Palestinian groups who fought in Beirut, but they were not from 'Arafat's groups. They were from Abu Musa's group and from Abu Khalid al-'Amlah's group. These were the ones who fought in Beirut. As for 'Arafat's group he knows very well where they were. Those who slander the Syrian Army which fought in Lebanon and offered what it offered do not want to go to war with Israel. Therefore, Abu 'Ammar did not bring these weapons to fight Israel. He brought these weapons to fight the Lebanese nationalists and to repeat in Tripoli the tragedies that took place in Beirut. Personally, I wish that 'Arafat had not come to Tripoli and had not adopted the poltiical stands which he has been following lately.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Do I understand from all this that Syria has severed all its ties with Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat and have its relations with him reached a state of no reutrn?

Khaddam: When 'Arafat slanders Syria, launches campaigns against it, and places himself in a position which contradicts that of the principal country which is now confronting Israel, he is choosing a stand which we would not have chosen for him. Therefore, reconciliation with him is unacceptable.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: The GCC summit has sent a delegation to Damascus to achieve reconciliation, but I see that it has failed. Why is that?

Khaddam: The GCC summit delegation did not come to Damascus to discuss the dispute between us and 'Arafat. It came to discuss with the Palestinian opposition, the PLO Executive Committee members in Damascus, and the PNC speaker Khalid al-Fahum the current fighting between the Palestinian sides in northern Lebanon. It also discussed the means to stop the fighting. The delegation met with the [PLO mediation] committee. Then the Kuwaiti and Qatari Ministers met with President Hafiz al-Asad to review with him the results of their meetings with the various Palestinian sides.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: It is being reiterated abroad that Syria is in an arms race to become the most powerful state in the region; is this true?

Khaddam: Syria has a firm and clear policy which may please some people and displease others. We believe that our policy stems from our nation's short and long-term interests. The Arab nation is now a target. The West wants to control it due to its strategic location and its economically strategic resources. This is the reason for the unlimited support which Israel is getting from the United States and certain Western states. The defense of the freedom of the Arab world calls for a serious confrontation with Israel, which is the base for direct aggression against the Arab nation. This means we must clearly understand the nature of the conflict in the region. We also believe that unless we achieve a strategic balance with Israel, the Arab nation will remain vulnerable and threatened by the Israeli enemy. Our objective in this phase is to achieve a strategic balance between us in Syria and the Israeli enemy. We are working to this end. Naturally, we expect our Arab brothers to back this trend, because we believe it is a sound trend. We are now in the phase of building the bases of this defense. We will then move to the phase of basic and comprehensive construction, which is the phase of strategic balance between us and the enemy. Once we have succeeded in achieving this balance, we will then be in a position to check all designs against our nation and country.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: We have heard people in Damascus say that Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states have cut off their aid to Syria because of the Palestinian infighting in northern Lebanon. Is this correct?

Khaddam: Saudi Arabia has not cut off the aid approved under the Baghdad summit resolutions. Some Gulf states have apologized [for not paying] for economic reasons, not because of the Palestinian infighting. The suspension of aid from some Gulf states has been in existence for more than 2 years.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: We have noticed that Algeria has attacked Syria for taking sides in the Palestinian infighting. Are relations cool between you and Algeria?

Khaddam: Relations between us and Algeria are good. There is no coolness. I would also like to say that there is a difference between our good relations with Algeria and what is written in the Algerian papers, which lack good sources of information. At any rate, nobody can criticize Syria's position on the Palestine question. Whoever criticizes Syria's stand should give to the Palestine question one billionth, and I will not say one millionth or one hundredth, of what Syria gives. Syria is the only one assuming the burden of confrontation with Israel. It is most unfortunate that many of our Arab brothers are Phalangist [meaning ultra nationalist] in their countries and pro-Palestinian in Lebanon or Syria.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: over a month ago, UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan visited Baghdad and Damascus in an attempt to achieve reconciliation between the two countries. Then nothing more was heard about his efforts. Why did this attempt not work out?

Khaddam: The problem between us and the Baghdad rulers is complicated. It is not easy for anyone to understand the real relations between the two countries and the real problem between us and Iraq. All I can say is that contacts have taken place and no tangible developments have emerged.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: Do we understand from this that Syria has closed all avenues with Iraq?

Khaddam (laughing): And can I say that you have taken up much of my time?

Khaddam Receives Saudi Minister, Nonaligned Group

JN221850 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Telephone dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus — live or recorded]

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, who arrived in Damascus this morning, held a lengthy meeting with his Syrian counterpart, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Faruq ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, also attended the meeting.

Minister Khaddam was on hand at Damascus airport to receive a nonaligned delegation which included the foreign ministers of India, Yugoslavia, Cuba, and Senegal. The four ministers also held lengthy talks with PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum.

In reply to a question by our station concerning these latest efforts at mediation, an official Syrian source said that Syria's position on the Palestinian question is constant and known by all parties and mediators. He added: Syria opposes all fighting among Palestinians and supports any effort to acheive a ceasefire and initiate a democratic dialogue among the Palestinian parties involved in this issue. Such a discussion would safeguard the PLO's unity and serve the cause of the Palestinian people, which is in turn the Arab nation's central cause.

Regarding Syria's cooperation with these latest efforts at mediation, the Syrian source said: As it cooperated with previous efforts at mediation -- such as the one launched by the GCC countries — Syria is again ready to support any sincere effort in the same direction.

In reply to a question by our station on the health of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, a Syrian presidential spokesman described the president's health as good and improving.

President al-Asad received party and state officials today, including 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary; Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party assistant regional secretary; Ministers Khaddam and Talas; and General Hikmat ash-Shihabi, chief of the Army Staff. President al-Asad discussed the regional situation with them, reviewed the progress of state and party activities, and issued a number of instructions. Attention was also paid to the latest developments in the Lebanese arena and the recent contacts between Syria and various other countries.

More on Nonaligned Group's Activities

JN222016 Damascus Doemstic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] At 1730 today, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received a committee of nonaligned foreign ministers. The group was led by Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao and included the foreign ministers of Cuba and Yugoslavia, the Indian deputy foreign minister, and the Senegalese representative to the United Nations.

Present at the meeting were Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Isam an-Na'ib, assistant foreign minister; a number of directors at the Foreign Ministry; and the ambassadors of India, Cuba, and Yugoslavia.

The session was devoted to an analysis of the current political situation in the Middle East.

Former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami also met with the nonaligned foreign ministers. Karami expressed his regret at the events in Tripoli and northern Lebanon, particularly at this stage, when the Zionist-colonialist onslaught in Lebanon is intensifying. All this, he said, requires us to make all efforts and mobilize all forces so that we may stand at the side of steadfast Syria to confront every form of this aggression. Karami noted that we must tackle the reasons for the differences and conflict inside the Fatah movement, and underlined the importance of preserving the PLO as the as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

Press on Weinberger, Israeli-U.S. Talks

JN230824 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Press review]

[Text] Today's newspapers comment on and analyze the open threats against Syria, the U.S. escalation of the regional situation, and the strategic coordination talks held between the United States and Israel, the purpose of which is to dominate and exclusively control the region in order to promote the aims of the U.S.-Zionist strategy.

In its editorial entitled: "New Weinberger Threats," *AL-BA'TH* says: One month after the explosion at the U.S. Marine Headquarters in Beirut, Caspar Weinberger, the U.S. secretary of defense, has again made threats against Syria under the same pretext which the United States has used since the beginning of its campaign of threats: the pretext of leveling accusations against our country.

It is true that the outflow of U.S. threats has not stopped, but what is behind Weinberger's latest zeal and most recent threats? It is significant that these threats have come immediately after our forces honorably confronted and downed two Zionist enemy planes over Lebanon. They also come in the wake of Rumsfeld's tour of the Middle East, during which, while in Damascus he heard Syria's affirmation of its principled position concerning the overall Middle East and international issues.

AL-BA'TH adds: Ronald Reagan's administration can overcome this impasse through an immediate withdrawal from the region and by taking the side of justice and right vis-a-vis the world's most just cause since the late 1940's. But will the United States do this? We know that the answer is: The United States continues to support Israel and its expansionist aims. It continues to harbor illusory hopes of controlling the region by cordoning it off and, through military might, placing it under U.S. domination. The United States has prepared this plan of aggression and is now ready to implement it in complete coordination with Israel. Weinberger appears to be heralding this aggression. For our part, we would like to herald the fact that this act of aggression will not be a simple excursion; it will lead to results that will be unacceptable to the Reagan administration and to U.S. public opinion.

TISHRIN comments on the upcoming Washington talks and the U.S.- Israeli contacts, saying: The alliance of aggression will achieve unprecedented goals as a result of the Reagan-Shamir talks. It is clear that the main aim of this alliance is a large-scale act of aggression against Syria. How else can we explain the fact that the Shamir government discussed the increase in Syrian power at the same session that it reviewed a proposal to promote strategic relations with the United States? How do we explain the Israeli media reports that Israel has provided the United States with intelligence reports on some hostile military targets in Lebanon — targets which the say have not yet been attacked?

Concluding its comment, *TISHRIN* warns of the consequences involved in any attack on Syria, saying: Syria will confront such an act of aggression in the same way it confronted it — on a small-scale — a few days ago. It will not be frightened by the scope of hostile U.S.- Israeli cooperation because it has placed the fact that U.S. support for Israel is absolute and unlimited at the top of its strategic considerations. The aggressors must know that the list of our strategic considerations contains factors which have not yet been revealed. For each alliance there is a counteralliance. It is not Israel alone which can develop its power and ensure a cover for this power. It would be wise to take this extremely important factor into account before the Washington talks begin — that is, supposing this wisdom is available.

'U.S. Pushing Israel Toward All-Out War'

JN221919 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States is pushing Israel toward an all-out war. Through Israeli aggression, Washington dreams of achieving the objectives it has long pursued. It has prepared a suitable climate for achieving them; it has massed fleets and intensified its diplomatic efforts. For its part, Israel is preparing itself and showing a desire to achieve its objectives through escalating tension and involving the region in a situation that would not be advantageous to world peace. Because Israel must expand, it can create the atmosphere that the United States needs to mask its own goals. It has become obvious that an act of aggression against Syria now dominates both the minds and the political and military moves of Israel and the United States. It is equally obvious that Washington will satisfy the desires of the Zionist terrorists by allowing them to obtain what they call the first strike weapon — the U.S. Pershing Missile. If world political circles believe that Washington will open the doors of every U.S. Army depot to the Zionist generals, the parallel belief is that the party which must face these weapons — Syria — is certain that the United States will not hesitate to supply Israel as long as it considers that state to be the best party to defend Western interests in the Middle East, and as long as the U.S. President considers Israel to be a soldier fighting for the United States and one of the principal divisions of the U.S. Army.

This Syrian belief makes it more capable of determining both the results and the aggressive nature of U.S.-Israeli cooperation. Thus, the calculations of the allies of aggression will be void, because possession of a first strike weapon will not be limited to one party and also because the consequences of the devastating war will not affect one side without affecting the other. When the United States links its understanding of peace with the force of arms, it is making a fundamental error, because arms in general have a destructive power and the weapons in Syria's hands will not be less effective than those in the hands of others.

We in Syria are already aware that war is war, but when we commit ourselves to national and pan-Arab issues and adhere to our principles — which the whole world has admitted are legal and rightfully ours — we will neither retreat before U.S. blackmail nor waver when facing a first strike weapon in the hands of the Israelis. Although we are seeking peace and justice, that does not mean that we will not resort to other means should our enemies impose such a situation upon us. This is what the U.S. and Israeli strategists must know and understand. When U.S. officials unanimously admit that the situation in the Middle East is dangerous, they must ask about the source of this danger. Is it Syria whose land is occupied, or Lebanon, one-third of whose territory is under Zionist occupation, or the Palestinian people, who were evicted from their homeland and whose rights are usurped with U.S. arms in the hands of the Zionists?

The Americans refuse to see reality except through Israeli binoculars. U.S. leaders justified the protection of their interests by making Israel a tyrannical force that threatens world peace. Were U.S. interests in Lebanon threatened when U.S. experts planned the Israeli invasion? Such precedents in U.S. policy, which is hostile to the Arabs, are the only source of danger in the region which poses a threat to area security, Western interests, and what the Western camp claims are its interests. Since the United States is already committed to this policy, it must admit that Syria has the right to adhere to its policy and to direct all its capabilities and potential toward facing any attack on its security in Lebanon or its status as a force defending Arab security against the expansionist Zionist dreams.

WAFA Cited on 'Arafat, PLO 'Uprising'

JN222145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] WAFA has asserted that world imperialism has disgracefully pledged to rescue what it can of 'Arafat's course of action and to save its leading figures. In a commentary today, WAFA said that the concern over Yasir 'Arafat's leadership is not restricted to Arab reactionaries, for we see France embarking on a very real and escalating role in determining Yasir 'Arafat's future and course of action by strengthening his ties with the Reagan plan, which calls for the greatest possible agreement between the Jordanian regime and the deviationist leadership. WAFA added: We have no doubts about the significance of Hani al-Asan — Arafat's representative — and his permanent stationing in Amman. The meaning and nature of the steps now being taken in Jordan to fulfill the requirements for joining the humiliating settlement are also clear. This is true whether one refers to the talks on activating the federation or those measures related to the recent Jordanian effort to dissolve the National Consultative Council and revive the Jordanian Parliament, which includes Palestinians.

WAFA confirmed the all-around continued progress of the uprising, something which expresses the real interests of our people and their complete right to effectively contribute to determining the future of the Palestinian struggle in accord with principles that run counter to the proposed settlements. WAFA noted that this frightens those forces collaborating with the hostile plan, which seeks to liquidate the Palestinian and Lebanese liberation struggle. This will enable these forces to strengthen their alliance and further escalate their aggression.

President Herzog Meets Reagan, Comments

TA221844 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] President Herzog has just ended his meeting in the White House with President Reagan. Afterwards, he spoke to reporters.

[Begin recording] [Herzog] I had a very pleasant and interesting talk with President Reagan. And, I've come away from the talk once again reassured about the close relations which exist between Israel and the United States and the commonality of interests that we have in our area.

[Unidentified correspondent] Did you discuss a strengthening of those relations and, if so, how?

[Herzog] I did raise the issue of the strengthening of the relations but I'd rather not go into any detail.

[Unidentified correspondent] Could you tell us what message, if any, you brought (?for the President)?

[Herzog] I brought to the President a message which really describes the situation as we see it and it's a very, very fluid situation today in the Middle East; it described it as we see it and pointed out also the possibilities for a further advance in the process of peace in the area which could possibly emerge from these developments. I also emphasized our appreciation of the fact that the United States is the main and most powerful element in the cause of peace today in the Middle East. [end recording]

More on Herzog-Reagan Meeting

TA222114 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] In his talk with President Hayim Herzog this evening, President Reagan reiterated the firm support of the United States for Israel. In the meeting at the White House, Herzog pointed out that bilateral cooperation must also be evident. President Reagan noted the negative role played by Syria in the Middle East. He asked for President Herzog's opinion about the conflict within the PLO and whether it will result in a moderate leadership emerging in the territories. President Herzog replied that despite the deep frustration currently prevailing in the territories a moderate Palestinian leadership may emerge from this crisis.

Formal Strategic Cooperation With U.S. Wanted

TA230534 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan continues to insist on forming a U.S. funded Jordanian task force, despite Israel's opposition. Our correspondent Razi Barqay learned that President Reagan indicated this in a talk he had last night with President Herzog. Our correspondent adds, based on U.S. circles, that the United States does not intend to draw up a binding document which will formalize strategic cooperation with Israel, such as the strategic memorandum of understanding. An Israeli demand to formalize cooperation with the United States will apparently be brought up next week during the prime minister and defense minister's visit in Washington. The demand is to formalize these relations publicly and officially. However, our correspondent adds that the United States might show flexibility toward the Israeli aid request for next year.

HA'ARETZ on Shamir, Arens U.S. Visit

TA221222 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Nov 83 p 9

[Commentary by 'Aqiva Eldar: "Jerusalem, Washington, and Moscow"]

[Text] Perhaps it is the Marxist past of the young Yitzhaq Shamir, coming as he does from the left hand corner of LEHI [extremist splinter group which parted from the Irgun in the pre-State years], or perhaps one should give him credit for being a kind of statesman. One way or the other, the new prime minister has not exactly been rattling his saber at Moscow. U.S. Under Secretary of State Eagleburger came to Jerusalem to invite Shamir to Washington for talks with President Reagan, and to discuss joint preparations and deployment vis-a-vis the Soviet threat facing the free world. Shamir is going to Washington at a time when he is faced with the threat of the madmen in Damascus, while endeavoring not to anger the slumbering Russian bear. Three months ago Shamir visited Bucharest, where he spoke at length on the readiness "to bring any earnest country" into the peace process. He belongs to the rightist minority which believes that it is permissible, and indeed necessary, to play with the Eastern bloc, and that this in no way conflicts with the special ties with the United States. Shamir will want to exploit to the utmost what he calls "this propitious opportunity" in Washington. But he has no intention of doing so by slamming the door on the tiny crack open between Jerusalem and Moscow.

Two years ago, Ari'el Sharon and Caspar Weinberger signed a strategic anticommunist memorandum of understanding in a Washington gymnasium. The Israeli Government confirmed it at the bedside of an ailing Menahem Begin, who was recovering in Hadassah hospital at the time from having slipped in his bath. Moshe Arens, then Israel's ambassador to Washington, was not enthusiastic about the document, and did not mourn it when Washington decided to suspend its implementation in punishment for the Golan Heights bill. Officially speaking, the memorandum of understanding today has no validity, and Defense Minister Arens, like Prime Minister Shamir, no longer wants it. Emphasizing Syria's aggression on the eve of their departure for Washington, and stressing Israel's security and defense needs as deriving from this aggression, is apparently no coincidence. Jerusalem is paving the way, preparing the atmosphere, for concrete discussions on the Syrian buildup. Recently appointed envoy Donald Rumsfeld was not received with denunciations about the long arm of Yuriy Andropov, but with a formula along the lines of "Israel and the United States together can do away with the Syrian threat, and also get it out of Lebanon."

Jerusalem has been following Moscow's moves with interest since the start of the Lebanese war: So far the Soviet Union has refrained from becoming directly, physically involved in the military moves. The Kremlin leaders are maneuvering around

Syria — their last foothold in the region. Al-Asad has need of Moscow's services in order to realize his dream of becoming the leader of the Arab world, but Moscow is being very cautious, watching every step he takes very carefully indeed. Latent tension in the north is in Moscow's interest in remaining in the picture. A war in Israel could well end in another Syrian defeat, and loss of prestige where the Soviet Union and its missiles, tanks, and advisers are concerned. This danger looms even larger in view of the massive presence of the Marines in Beirut. A joint interest has thus been created, encompassing Jerusalem, Washington, and Moscow. The aim of this joint interest is to stop the Syrians.

The United States is concerned over the Soviets' involvement in the Middle East. Paradoxically, the United States and its NATO allies invited this involvement. First, a situation was created where NATO forces wearing the uniforms of the Multinational Force were stationed in this area, which in terms of distance, is as close to Moscow as Grenada is to the United States. These forces are admittedly small, but President Reagan's assurances that they would be pulled out of Lebanon have not been made good as yet, and the movements of the U.S. armada in the Mediterranean only reinforced Moscow's fears. These developments heighten the Kremlin's interest in Damascus. The Soviet Union derives no pleasure from the blows inflicted on Yasir 'Arafat's forces by Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], Ahmad Jibril and their men. After all, the PLO leader is equipped with Soviet arms, and many of his troops were trained in Soviet camps. But the Soviet Union is keeping its lips tightly closed as it stands on the sidelines and observes the rebels emerging victorious under Al-Asad's aegis.

The Soviet Union is not unduly worried, it is thought in Jerusalem, by agreements signed between Israel and the United States. Everyone realizes that the anger over the asymmetrical strategic cooperation between these two countries is more or less token in nature, something like keeping two sets of books. After all, Greece, Turkey and Norway have all allocated land for U.S. bases, yet Moscow did not sever diplomatic relations with them. It directs its denunciations at Jerusalem. Observers feel that the Middle East is not exactly at the top of Moscow's list of worries — Europe and Latin America preoccupy it to a far greater extent. The United States, too, is now preoccupied with the opposition to its Pershing missiles being stationed on European soil, and with increasing communist penetration of Central America.

The impression from the preparatory talks prior to the departure of Shamir and Arens for Washington is that the United States would like Israel's cooperation in Central America and black Africa. Washington is interested in the services of Israeli advisers in order to enhance penetration of countries where the American flag is seen in the same way as a red flag by a bull. Strategic cooperation, American style, is somewhat reminiscent of the Cuban "workers" in Grenada. The U.S. interest in curbing communism in regions a long way from the Middle East could well land Israel — in the heat of the enthusiasm generated by the U.S. embrace — in a far more acute state of isolation and faced with far greater hostility from Moscow. A message arrived in Jerusalem not long ago, sent by friends of Israel in Congress. The gist of the message was: Hands off Central America. These friends believe that Israel should on no account involve itself in the United States' internal controversy over its policy in Nicaragua and Honduras. In Jerusalem, they also recall the dangerous influence this could have on the Soviet Union's attitude vis-a-vis the sizable Jewish community there.

Shamir and Arens are leaving for Washington with great expectations of aid. The United States does not hand out dollars for nothing and it intends to exact a price for helping against Syria, to the tune of Israeli services over the ocean. Both men know it would be better for Israel if the Soviet Union were able to exercise some control over Syria's moves. Will these moves be strong enough to prevent Jerusalem from becoming Washington's satellite, just as Damascus — while on good terms with the Soviet Union — is no satellite of Moscow ?

'Senior Sources' on U.S. Aid Offer to West Bank

TA200845 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 83 p 2

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The United States wants to extend direct economic aid to the territories. Our correspondent has learned that a group of State Department officials from the Third World Department visited Israel more than a month ago and proposed that the United States directly finance projects in the West Bank through the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem.

The United States currently extends indirect aid to the territories through various charitable organizations, the most important of these being the UNRWA organization. The State Department officials met in Israel with staff from the Foreign Ministry and members of the military government and explained that the United States was concerned about the economic and social situation in the territories and intended to extend direct aid to improve the situation.

The Israeli figures with whom they met rejected the claim that the economic and social situation in the territories is worrisome and said that there is an improvement from year to year. The Israeli figures claimed that only in the refugee camps is the situation serious and most of the aid should be directed to them. In the opinion of the Israeli interlocutors, the U.S. aid should be directed via Israel, not directly or through the existing charitable organizations.

Senior Israeli sources told our correspondent that this is a very significant development in U.S. policy, because the United States as a country is now interested in the territories in order to consolidate there politically and push Israel out. The claim that the consideration is socio-economic is only aimed at disguising the political goal of the new move.

U.S. charitable organizations have also tried in the past to bypass Israel in the realm of extending aid, and it was only after severe struggles that a way to continue their activities under Israeli supervision was found. It is not clear whether the issue will again be raised during the upcoming visit to the United States by Shamir and Arens.

David Levi Says 'Preemptive Strike' Not Planned
TA230617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Report on interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi by Yaron Enosh on 22 November, place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Begin Levi recording] Israel is not considering any preemptive strike. Israel must be prepared at all times, in case the other side does carry out its wishes. Only by being ready and properly deployed can we change Syrian intentions as well. [end recording]

The deputy prime minister thinks that the show of power we are witnessing on the other side is intended to prove that Syria can face Israel, and even take action against it.

Israel, David Levi says, is on its guard and following the preparations there. I suggest we not take the Syrian threat lightly, and we in the Cabinet do not take it lightly.

[Begin Levi recording] We do not want war. The citizens of Israel know this, and Syria knows this as well. However, the Syrians' rigid line and their military buildup in an effort to dictate the conditions for any settlement [hesder] and their attempts to prevent Israel from scoring any political achievement must force us to foil any such intentions.

But this does not always require military means; there are political actions in which coordination is needed, and this is what we are doing. [end recording]

No Policy Change on Al-Awwali Crossings
TA221506 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1449 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Quoting an Israeli official, REUTERS has reported that today Israel renewed the stiff security measures on the Al-Awwali bridges after it received intelligence reports about plans to infiltrate booby-trapped cars into southern Lebanon.

According to the same report, the Israeli Foreign Ministry representative in Lebanon, Bruce Kashdan, said that private drivers were asked to present special permits to cross south. Traffic proceeded almost freely yesterday for the first time since the attack in Tyre.

Reacting to this report, military sources told our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz that there has been no stiffening in the IDF's policy on crossing the Al-Awwali bridges.

Al-Asad Reportedly Has Leukemia, Heart Condition
TA222117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Israeli circles in Washington say that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has leukemia and a heart condition. This is reported by our Washington correspondent Razi Barqay.

Knesset Sums Up Debate on Tyre Bombing
TA221656 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Today the Knesset discussed the Tyre disaster, and later the Likud's draft resolution was accepted with a majority of 48 coalition members against 39 opposition members. The resolution states that the Knesset rejects with disgust any indiscriminating terror and that no hostile act will deter Israel from fulfilling its security obligations. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the Alignments' draft resolution to take security steps that will ensure peace in the Galilee and to return the army home soon, was rejected. The Alignment also called on the government to give the Knesset the report of the committee that investigated the Tyre disaster and to take steps that will prevent such disasters. MK Hanan Porat called on the government to make the Al-Awwali the security border of Israel.

Oil Agreement for Next Year Reached With Egypt
TA221538 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Egypt will sell Israel 2 million tons of oil next year, the same amount as last year. The director of the Fuel Administration, Shim'on Gilbo'a, who held talks in Cairo on this issue, told our reporter Me'ir Einstein that no changes were made in the agreements as both countries are satisfied.

Islamic Religious Organization Uncovered
TA201522 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Nov 83

["IDF Spokesman's Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] [no dateline as received] The security forces have recently uncovered an Islamic religious organization whose members admitted carrying out the [word missing in original] of the late Yeshiva student Aharon Gross. The members of that religious organization live in Jerusalem and in Hebron. The murder of the Yeshiva student was perpetrated near the Hebron vegetable market on 7 July 1983. In the course of that assassination attempt, the victim's personal weapon was snatched from him. In the course of uncovering the organization, the murdered person's 'Uzi submachine was found in a cache in Hebron. The security forces are continuing their investigation.

Refugee Rehabilitation Program Presented
TA211032 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 21 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] The program for rehabilitating the refugee camps proposed by Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat will not be imposed by force on the inhabitants of the camps. The intention is to rehabilitate the refugees where they are living in the camps or nearby, but not to transfer them to other places. This was reported yesterday in Jerusalem by the minister, who was reviewing the main points of his plan. Ben-Porat said that most of the money for the rehabilitation program would come from foreign sources, and help from the Government of Israel would be added to it.

The program will cost about $1.5 billion and some 1,000 to 1,500 refugee families would be rehabilitated each year. Ben-Porat described his program as having a humanitarian, not political emphasis, although Israel, of course, might enjoy the political results of the plan. Minister Ben-Porat did not report details of the sources of foreign financial backing, but he did add that those behind the program intended to cooperate with URWA.

Minister Ben-Porat reported data on the number of refugees in camps in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and from this data it emerges that there are 28 camps in the territories, containing about 170,000 people. The program is based on the experience gained in the rehabilitation of a small section of refugee families in the Gaza Strip. The intention is to find plots of land inside the camps or near them that would be put at the disposal of the refugee families to build private houses, with the aid of financial grants and low-interest mortgages.

Those behind the program think it will be easy for the refugees to find suitable rehabilitation near the places where they are now living. Yesterday, Minister Ben-Porat said his program had already been submitted to the Cabinet, but it had not yet been discussed. However, it appears that most of the ministers support it.

The DAVAR correspondent adds that Arab leaders in the West Bank and Gaza refused to comment on the program yesterday, saying that the solution to the Palestinian problem would have to be a comprehensive one, and the refugee problem would be solved within its framework. Some of them regard any Israeli rehabilitation program with suspicion, considering that its intentions might be political. According to the reports, it appears that one of the first camps where the program will be implemented is the Ad-Duhayshah camp, and the program's initiators intend to decide on a framework for its rehabilitation and the establishment of a local authority to deal with its problems.

Solidarity Committee Rejects Program

TA211737 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The Committee for Solidarity with Bi'r Zayt University rejects the program for rehabilitating the refugee camps which was proposed by Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat. The committee's spokesman convened a news conference in Jerusalem saying that he and his friends view the program as a continuation of the Lebanese war and that its aim is to destroy the political infrastructure of the Palestinian people.

Some of the residents of the Ad-Duhayshah refugee camp near Bethlehem also participated in the news conference. They said that arrests have lately been carried out in the camp, that soldiers have burst into apartments at night, and have driven their residents out into the street, that heavy fines have been imposed on a number of residents, and that several businesses in the camp have been closed.

During the last curfew in the area, they said, the soldiers in the camp threw hundreds of tear gas grenades in Ad-Duhayshah.

Refugee Residents Reject Program

TA211934 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Report by correspondent in Judaea and Samaria Arye Gus — recorded]

[Excerpt] The Ad-Duhayshah refugee camp residents reject Minister Ben-Porat's rehabilitation program, saying that lately their camp, as well as others, has suffered from oppressive measures intended to prepare the ground for the implementation of the program — arrests, breaking into houses, sealing off of streets, and so on and so forth — measures which are not preceded by provocations by the camp residents. According to the Ad-Duhayshah residents no stones were thrown in the camp, nor were there any demonstrations there. Security sources said this claim is nonsense. Only a week ago, they noted, an IDF officer received a head injury when a stone was thrown from the camp.

'Compromise' Reached in Bi'r Zayt Dispute

TA201424 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] The dispute between the Judaea and Samaria Civilian Administration and the foreign lecturers in the universities of the territories has been resolved. This has been reported by our correspondent Arye Gus. Today 19 lecturers from Bi'r Zayt University signed work permit forms for employment in the territories. It was these licenses that were the cause for this dispute, since the foreign lecturers had refused to sign a clause banning them from helping the PLO. About 40 people were expelled from the territories while the dispute was going on. Our correspondent recalls that the compromise that led to the resolution of the dispute was a decision to divide the work permit forms into two separate forms. One form will include a paragraph saying that the security instructions are clearly understood by the lecturers; while the second form will include the regulations themselves. Our correspondent adds that in the meantime the police are continuing to investigate a suspicion that the president of the Bi'r Zayt University forged official Civilian Administration forms on this matter. The university denies that this occurred.

French Paper Reports Israel-Togo Agreement

TA200838 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Nov 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from Paris by Gid'on Kuts]

[Text] Israel has signed an agreement with Togo and, according to this, will supply it with military and civilian aid. This is reported by the weekly *LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR*, which says that Togo may be the third African country to renew relations with Israel. Recently *LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR* reported that the Ivory Coast, which had been going to renew ties with Israel, gave this up after Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba threatened to sever relations with it. The French president's adviser on African affairs, Guy Penne, told an Israeli delegation that the chance for renewing relations between Israel and countries in Central and East Africa had increased because

of the worsened domestic situations in these countries and the fears, inter alia, of Libyan subversion. African sources, for their part, have reported that President Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast has not given up his intention of renewing relations with Israel, but the implementation of this has been postponed because of internal difficulties in his country. On Friday, 18 November, Houphouet-Boigny dismissed one-third of his Cabinet ministers.

ALGERIA

Press Statement on Brazilian President's Visit

LD212224 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The formal visit paid to Algeria by Joao Figueiredo, president of the Federative Republic of Brazil, from 19 to 21 November 1983 at the invitation of Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, culminated in the publication of a press statement reporting that the talks between the two presidents were held in an atmosphere of great friendship and mutual understanding, and that they have enhanced the interest of both countries in consolidating and promoting cooperative bilateral relations.

Upon examining certain international issues, the two presidents noted a considerable identity of views regarding those problems which pose a threat to world peace and security. They agreed to work together within a comprehensive framework for the democratization of international relations.

The two presidents also analyzed the current world economic situation. They expressed their profound concern over the deep crisis affecting the developing countries. They again stressed the urgent need to create a new international economic order that will establish the just and genuine integration that will make harmonious development among all nations a real possibility.

With regard to bilateral relations, the two presidents reasserted the willingness of their governments to encourage increased contacts and to raise the current levels of cooperation. They expressed satisfaction at the implementation of the appropriate legal documents and the achievement of common aims. They also noted the great potential for establishing a broad and fruitful cooperative relationship that will yield mutual benefits.

The president of the Federative Republic of Brazil invited the president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to pay a formal visit to his country. This invitation was gratefully accepted, and will take place at a date to be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

LIBYA

Talks Between Reagan, 'Hireling' Numayri Reported

LD222103 Tripoli JANA in English 1926 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 17, Nov 22, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The head of the U.S. Administration and the hireling Numayri last night in Washington held a meeting of an extremely provocative nature against the Arab Libyan people. To justify U.S. military intervention in Sudan and to find an excuse for making the country a base for Washington's aggression on Libya, Numayri repeated coward allegations during the meeting. He claimed that Libya threatens his regime, Sudan's unity and stability in the whole continent of Africa.

Such unfounded allegations, as we all know, coincide with similar excuses being given by the U.S. Administration to provoke Libya. No wonder therefore, Numayri's words gave Reagan a gold opportunity to show his aggressive tendency against Libya when he once again repeated claims that had been strongly rejected by the Security Council, the public opinion as well as the American people.

In his efforts to implement aggressive plots against Libya the head of the U.S. Administration, as we can see, adopts a Machiavellian method by keep repeating Numayri's and U.S. agent in Egypt's lies on Jamahiriyah in an attempt to make them a de facto. Counting the incidents in which Reagan spelled out his hatred to Libya, welcome to concluded that U.S. Administration lists our country as one of its military targets. Realising that Libya is a thorn in the U.S. imperialism's body, Washington Administration decided to adopt the agent regime in Sudan. Numayri has ashamed the Arab nation and suppressed the will of 20 million Arabs in the Sudan by connecting his fate with U.S. imperialism.

The following conclusion could be derived from this situation.

Firstly, the U.S. Administration proved incapable of learning from previous experiences in protecting its agents. Recent history told us about how the masses overthrew these agents and trod on their bodies.

Secondly, Numayri has fallen in a trap by simply forgetting the fact that his fate will be similar to that of U.S. agents throughout history.

Thirdly, the Sudanese people who are now uprising will burn all Numayri's cards giving an example in eliminating agents and traitors.

MOROCCO

Hassan Addresses OAU, UN on Sahara Issue

LD221656 Rabat MAP in English 1245 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 22 (MAP) — "If Morocco has not accepted and does not accept to start direct negotiations with an entity (the Polisario) which has not the quality of a sovereign state, it is not because he was to wants evade the recommendations of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), affirmed King Hassan II.

In a memoir, sent to the members of the United Nations and to the heads of state of member countries of the OAU, on the eve of the meetings of the UN Decolonization Committee, and whose text was published Tuesday by the Moroccan press, the Moroccan monarch reaffirmed this country's stance regarding the cease-fire and the organization [words indistinct] and the organizing of a referendum in Western Sahara.

Explaining with juridical arguments Morocco's refusal to start direct negotiations with the Polisario, King Hassan II recalled that "international negotiations are conducted between sovereign states or between them and international organisations."

"Yes indeed, sovereign states are free to accept negotiations with other interlocutors and Morocco does not dispute the possibility for the OAU, or for any other member state to conduct talks with some entity that it believes useful, however, reciprocally nothing, nor anybody can compel one or several states, notably Morocco to do the same thing. This point is vital for Morocco, for it is one of his sovereignty's attributes that is at stake," said the monarch.

"These considerations do not constitute an obstacle for the OAU to seek information from concerned parties about the conditions for a cease-fire, nor do they constitute an obstacle for Morocco to start negotiations, if necessary, with sovereign states which would be concerned or interested in the cease-fire," he added.

Explaining, on the other hand, the fact the referendum which constitutes the final objective of the OAU, can alone verify to what extent are founded the claims opposed to the Moroccan state rights, the monarch said that "this consideration overshadows the problem created in Western Sahara." "The legitimacy of an armed contestation movement cannot decide about its sole existence before any process of self-determination. To adopt an opposite solution would ruin the legitimacy, the national unity and the territorial integrity of state recognized by the international community that would be then at the mercy of puppet states."

King Hassan II notes on the other hand that the majority of Sahrawi populations is living peacefully within the Moroccan state, without internal struggles, and that this peace is troubled only by incursions from abroad. Undoubtedly, adds the monarch, this small foreign minority pretends that these populations support it, in spite of the calm they live in and the repeated expressions of loyalty to the nation in the form of democratic consultations, that prove how false this allegation is.

Yet, this referendum, sought both by the OAU and Morocco, aims precisely at settling this controversy. One cannot therefore back, before any verification a minority established outside the territory, at the detriment of a majority that is living peacefully within it, and in a constitutional and democratic context. But this is exactly what the case would be if this minority was given a right to negotiate in international forums, a right constituting one of the essential attributes of a sovereign state.

Thus, it is not only the rights of Morocco, a sovereign state, that are at stake, but those of the Sahrawi populations as well. Only the referendum could settle the issue between those who took to arms and those who adhered to their Moroccanity.

To conclude, the monarch stressed that "to give, in advance, exorbitant prerogatives and privileges to the first, would amount to treading over the rights of the latters."

More on Hassan's Message

LD220002 Kuwait KUNA in English 1438 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 21 (KUNA) — King Hassan II has sent a message to the current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam, urging that the organisation will arrange a referendum in the Western Sahara before the end of 1983 as resolved by the Addis Ababa African summit, it was stated Monday.

Informed sources added that the monarch's message has been delivered to the Ethiopian leader by Moroccan special envoy Abdelllatif Filali.

Meanwhile, African diplomatic sources here stated that an OAU delegation will soon tour a number of African states, including Algeria, Morocco and Libya in a bid to determine a new date for the meeting of the seven-member committee entrusted with arranging the referendum.

The committee last met during September but has failed to reach agreement because of Morocco's insistence not to negotiate with the Polisario Front.

At its recent meeting, the U.N. Special Committee on Decolonisation has upheld in a resolution the recommendations of the OAU summit which called for a referendum to determine the future of the Western Sahara people and urged Morocco to negotiate with the Polisario Front on this matter. Morocco has expressed reservations over the second clause, which, it argued, was not committing to Rabat.

Hassan Proposes 'Joint Initiative' on Lebanon

LD222117 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II — may God grant him victory — has sent a cable to Indira Gandhi, prime minister of India and chairman of the committee of eight on Palestine set up by the Nonaligned Summit Conference which was held in the Indian capital. Here is the text of the cable:

Madam Chairman and Dear Friend: In view of the serious and bloody events taking place in Tripoli [words indistinct] it gives us honor, as chairman of the committee of seven set up by the Arab summit conference, to propose to you, as chairman of the committee of eight established by the Nonaligned Summit Conference, a joint initiative aimed at bringing about both an immediate end to the battles and a reconciliation among the conflicting parties. We believe that a joint delegation, consisting of foreign ministers from both committees, should urgently transmit this initiatve to all concerned parties. We are confident that such a step will be beneficial and lead to the return of peace and an increase in support for the just cause of the Palestinian people. Please accept, madam prime minister, the highest expression of our fraternal appreciation.

Habib Chatti Meets With Hassan, Departs

LD222129 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, left Morocco following an audience this afternoon at the royal palace in Rabat with His Majesty King Hasan II — may God grant him victory.

The meeting was attended by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Ahmad Binsudah, his majesty's adviser. Chatti's visit falls within the framework of the preparatory consultations being held prior to both the conference of Islamic foreign ministers, due to be held next month in the capital of Bangladesh, and the Islamic summit, scheduled to be held in Casablanca in January 1984.

Senegalese Foreign Minister Ends Visit

LD221646 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Rabat, Nov 22 (MAP) — Senegalese minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Moustapha Niasse left here Monday evening after a short visit during which he was received by King Hassan II of Morocco.

During the meeting that took place here Monday morning, Mr Niasse and the monarch discussed the brotherly relations existing between the two countries as well as the development of bilateral cooperation.

The monarch assigned Mr Niasse with conveying a personal message to his brother President Abdou Diouf of Senegal.

Mr Niasse's visit to the kingdom was part of the permanent contacts existing between King Hassan II and the Senegalese president.

Within a few weeks, the countries joint commission will meet in Dakar to carry on examining bilateral cooperation issues that have been discussed by the commission in Marrakech.

SUDAN

Numayri's Remarks in Washington Reported

JN221221 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpt] Washington, 22 Nov (SUNA) — President Numayri has stressed the serious role which Libya and Ethiopia are playing in Africa, and noted that they are implementing policies which serve the interests of a superpower. He referred to the policy of destabilization being implemented by Libya and to Libya's interference in the internal affairs of other countries. He noted that Libya is hatching plots against Sudanese unity and stability; he also pointed out that by invading Chad, that same country seeks to undermine Chad's unity.

In a press statement issued following yesterday's round of talks with President Reagan at the White House, President Numayri reaffirmed Sudan's commitment to achieve a just solution to the Palestinian question. He explained that Sudan has consistently backed the resolutions adopted by the Fes summit, and that it supports President Reagan's plan as a step toward a more comprehensive solution to the question. President Numayri expressed Sudan's regret over and criticism of the bloodshed in Lebanon. He said that Sudan calls upon all parties to save Lebanon and its independence. Our country also rejects the policies and actions which seek to liquidate the PLO, and condemns the shedding of Arab blood by Arab hands.

President Numayri called on the U.S. President to spare no effort to halt Israel's expansionist policy and its attempts to become a superpower with great ambitions in the Arab world. He described Israel as the major cause of the Middle East problem. President Numayri also appealed to the USSR to support the efforts being made to advance the peace process in the Middle East.

President Numayri revealed that his talks with President Reagan were devoted to an examination of ways and means to promote bilateral relations. He expressed hope that the important role played by the United States vis-a-vis the refugee question will continue and expand. He explained that Sudan shelters an increasing number of refugees from neighboring countries, especially from Ethiopia. He stated his appreciation for President Reagan's invitation to visit the United States, and praised the friendly relations which exist between the U.S. and Sudanese peoples.

The two presidents discussed these questions for about 2 hours. Talks continued during a working banquet given by President Reagan in honor of President Numayri.

TUNISIA

Minister Denies 'Tension' in Relations With Syria

LD211834 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1717 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Tunis, 21 Nov (KUNA) — Tunisian Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi today denied reports of tension in relations between Syria and Tunisia. He affirmed that his visit to the UAE tomorrow "does not fall within the framework of any alleged mediation by Abu Dhabi between Tunisia and Syria."

In a statement to KUNA, Es-Sebsi noted: "My visit to the UAE is a cordial, friendly visit in response to a kind invitation from my brother, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid ar-Rashid." He added that the 4-day visit is the first stage in "a tour which will also include Indonesia and the PRC."

The Tunisian foreign minister did admit, however, that Syria recently sent an official memorandum to Tunisia protesting the strong campaign launched by the Tunisian press against the Syrian regime in general and President Hafiz al-Asad in particular due to the current state of affairs in northern Lebanon.

He said: "We have informed our Syrian brothers that our country's press is free, and that they may bring charges in Tunisian courts against any Tunisian paper they wish, should they find anything published to be in some way derogatory."

Last week, the Syrian Embassy in Tunisia raised the case of the Tunisian weekly magazine *AL-MAGHRIB AL-'ARABI* and accused it of slandering President Hafiz al-Asad, whom the magazine described in its 15 October issue as "an opportunist and a Machiavellian." But the magazine said in last week's issue that "should the trial demanded by the Syrian Embassy take place, it would likely become a trial of President al-Asad himself and his policy, particularly his policy in Lebanon."

ETHIOPIA

Voice of Broad Masses Reports TPLF Operations

EA221356 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Summary] On 16 November units of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] attacked an Ethiopian force moving from Sheraro to Adi [name indistinct], killing or wounding 55 soldiers and making the force retreat. In (Milasho) Dergue soldiers wounded 10 peasants and burned 7 (?houses) and 1 church. In yet another military engagement, TPLF forces attacked Ethiopian soldiers in the vicinity of Sheraro and Rama, killing or wounding seven soldiers.

Voice of Western Somalia on Reprisal Killings

EA221748 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somalia and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The black Abyssinian colonialist forces massacred innocent civilians in the town of (Kebri Dayah) in Jijiga district on 12 November. The civilians, mainly women and children, included nine children, five women, and four (?men) [names indistinct]. The massacre was in retaliation for an ambush launched by members of the gallant WSLF [Western Somalia Liberation Front] fighters on the town of Lido recently in which they killed 10 Cubans and 20 Abyssinian soldiers. In another attack on the village of (Martini) in (?Warder) region on 16 November the black Abyssinian colonialist forces killed many civilians and abducted 61 others. They also [word indistinct] looted large numbers of livestock from the people in the area. However, in a counteroperation to rescue the people, the WSLF fighters killed 30 Abyssinian soldiers and destroyed 1 enemy vehicle. [Passage indistinct]

KENYA

President Moi Departs for New Delhi Conference

EA221128 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi left for New Delhi early today to attend the Commonwealth leaders' conference taking place later this week. The presidential plane, carrying President Moi and his delegation, left Jomo Kenyatta International Airport shortly before 0700.

UGANDA

Obote Launches Revised Economic Recovery Program

EA201342 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Nov 83

[Text] President Obote has launched the revised economic recovery with an extensive expansion of projects backed by a series of strict internal financial management measures. The government has also established an agricultural price committee to review prices payable to growers for the major exports from time to time and to recommend to government.

The president announced these measures when he was addressing a combined meeting of Uganda People's Congress [UPC] Central Executive Committee, the National Council, and members of the UPC parliamentary group at the International Conference Center in Kampala. He told the meeting that today the revised recovery program, which will be presented at the donors conference which will take place in Paris early next year, is divided into two volumes. Volume one deals with policies and strategies adopted by the government and volume two deals with summaries of the projects. The estimates for fiscal years 1983-84 and 1984-85 are estimated $586,590,000, of which 387,730,000 has already been secured. Dr Obote said that the directions of the policies stated in the revised program document, published last year, are maintained in the revised document.

He told the participants that the primary task will continue to be to address themselves to the economic and social problems inherited by the UPC government in a determined endeavor to arrest the deadline [as heard]. The policies the government is following, he went on, will be moderate, sound, bold, imaginative, and realistic. The impact of the policies and the measures, he added, can be observed in the general and all-round improvement in the economy.

On the sectoral strategies, the president informed the meeting that in the mobilization of the resources under the original recovery program, the agricultural sector had the biggest share and that agriculture will continue to receive the largest portion of the resources in the revised recovery program. Dr Obote explained that agricultural projects provide for the rehabilitation of the main traditional export crops, namely coffee, cotton, tea, and tobacco. At the same time he emphasized the provision of the inputs for the primary producers, spare parts and equipment for processing plants, vehicles and equipment for the extension services. The second group of projects in this sector reflects government's increased concern to be self-sufficient in food supplies and ensure food security by providing funds for food crops like rice, maize, bananas, and dairy products. Emphasis will also be put on cooperative transport, cooperative distributive trade, and disease control.

On industry, President Obote said that the primary task is the rehabilitation of selected vital manufacturing industries with a large impact on government revenue. Dr Obote pointed out that it is government's aim to creat a climate conducive to investment both in the private and public enterprises. He added that the private sector has a key role to play in that we still have management problems in most industries. The president pointed out that it is government's policy to strengthen management by providing technical training, educational facilities, and imported expertise. On the expropriated properties, he said the verification committee will undertake the task of deciding ownership and compensation entitlement.

The president also said that the Uganda Development Bank will continue to act as the main medium-long term lending institution of the industrial sector and that the Uganda Development Cor-

poration will be reinvigorated to play a major role in starting new industries. On tourism, the president emphasized that the improvement of Uganda's international image will facilitate the recovery of the tourism industry. On mining, Dr Obote said that the aim is to rehabilitate small viable mines carrying out a feasibility study for the Kilembe mines project and to lay groundwork for future mineral exploitation. He also informed the members that work has already started on many of the projects.

Turning to energy, the president reminded the members that Uganda has a substantial hydroelectric potential. He also revealed that certain measures have been taken to make energy cheap. As we get to transport, Dr Obote said that the government aim is to follow transport prices which is easy to administer and which will optimize the use of transport resources. The president continued to say that projects in the transport sector will help the rehabilitation of Uganda railways, roads, and Entebbe International Airport. Posts and telecommunication services will also be improved.

On social infrastructure, the president noted that Uganda has an admirable system in self-help and community involvement in areas of education, primary health care, and community development, and that a large population can be served with a given amount of resources as long as greater efficiency and a reduced unit cost of provisions is achieved. Emphasis will, therefore, be placed on specific habilitation and consolidation of existing social infrastructure in housing, radio broadcasting, community development water, and sewerage system.

Turning to the 1983-84 budget, Dr Obote said that the government has continued its strong commitment to restrain physical and domestic credit so that the recovery of the economy is accompanied by both reduced inflationary pressures and overall balance of payments improvement. One of the physical objectives is to prevent misallocation of [words indistinct] foreign exchange and improve the monitoring of export earnings so as to reduce the overall balance of payments deficit and lessen the level of external arrears. He added that the government is limiting an increase in debt burden and foreign borrowing. President Obote announced that a borrowing committee has been established in the Ministry of Finance and the Bank of Uganda to review all proposed loans. He warned all potential lenders and borrowers that all unauthorized debts will not be honored. In order to control budgetary outlays and increase of revenue, new administrative measures will be taken by the government. The government is also taking measures to study the closing of the large number of accounts at the Bank of Uganda. Dr Obote also revealed that the government will provde 65 million shillings for immediate settlement of debts owed by the government departments and will also guarantee payments of all other accepted claims through short-term bonds.

The president also stated that in order to prevent the reemergency of domestic arrears, the government is to reintroduce the practice of maintaining vote books and commitment registers for all government accounts. The government will also reduce treasury officials to government units which do not maintain budgetary accounts on a current basis. Dr Obote urged the delegates to study the revised recovery program properly and explain it to the public.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

French Presidential Adviser Arrives in Bangui

AB221300 Paris AFP in English 1213 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Bangui, Nov 22 (AFP) — French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs, Guy Penne, arrived in the Central African Republic today.

He had an hour's meeting with Central African leader Andre Kolingba on bilateral cooperation and current African problems and told reporters France had decided to continue aid to Central Africa.

Mr. Penne was due to leave later today for Niamey before going on to Ndjamena tomorrow.

CHAD

Habre Receives Numayri Message, OAU Delegation

AB221705 Paris AFP in French 1425 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 22 November (AFP) — Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, Sudanese minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Ndjamena on Tuesday morning where he delivered a message from Marshal Ja'far Numayri, Sudanese head of state, to Hissein Habre, Chadian president.

The Sudanese minister told the press that the message was on issues concerning Chad which Marshal Numayri discussed with Italian and French authorities during his recent visit to Rome and Paris.

Mr Mubarak launched an appeal to African leaders to support the "just stand" of Hissein Habre's government on national reconciliation in Chad. He accused Libya of seeking to destabilize not only Chad but Sudan as well.

Meanwhile, the OAU delegation to Ndjamena led by the Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs, Lieutenant Colonel Goshu Wolde, and including the acting secretary general of the OAU, Peter Onu, was received on Tuesday for 2 hours by President Hissein Habre.

No statement was issued at the end of these meetings attended by Idriss Miskine, Chadian minister of foreign affairs. The OAU delegation left Ndjamena early this afternoon for Paris.

CONGO

Spanish King Arrives, To Meet Sassou-Nguesso

AB230700 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The people of Brazzaville this morning accorded a very warm and enthusiastic welcome to the King Juan Carlos I of Spain. Despite the rain, the inhabitants of Brazzaville came out in large numbers to welcome the host at the Maya-Maya International Airport. King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia were welcomed on arrival by the chairman of the Central Committee and his wife. After the welcoming ceremony — the playing of national anthems, inspecting the guard, and presenting the constituted bodies — the royal train left for the People's Palace. The first round of private talks between Juan Carlos I and Sassou-Nguesso will take place at the president's residence at 1600 this afternoon.

GUINEA

Party Resolution on Palestinian Problem

AB212225 Paris AFP in French 1403 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] Dakar, 21 Nov (AFP) — The Democratic Party of Guinea has expressed the wish that "the Palestinian problem and that of peace in the Middle East be referred to the Islamic Conference Organization, ICO." This statement was part of a resolution adopted by the party congress and monitored from Radio Conakry in Dakar. The congress expressed this wish after it "noted with regret the aggravation of internal contradictions within the PLO." This deterioration was described as being "supported by external influences" and as a cause of "serious damage to the international credibility of both the PLO and the Arab League of Nations." According to the resolution, the Guinean party suggested that the ICO make "a realistic study" of the Palestinian problem with a view to finding a global, just, and lasting solution — a sine qua non for peace and security in the Middle East — as well as the independent, peaceful, and harmonious development of all the people of that region."

The congress repeated "its firm, constant, and resolute support" for the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, as well for the creation of an independent Palestinian state. The congress also came out in favor of a "general and complete disarmament, which is a prerequisite for international peace and security." It also expressed support for the promotion and intensification of South-South cooperation while the North-South dialogue continues.

LIBERIA

USSR, Ghana Envoys Given 48 Hours To Leave

AB221610 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] A release from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued in Monrovia today has given the Soviet ambassador and the Ghanaian charge d'affaires 48 hours to leave Liberia. More details can be heard on our subsequent newscasts.

Expulsion Preserves 'Cordial Relations'

AB221745 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1735 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The Government of Liberia has declared as personae non gratae the ambassador of the Soviet Union to Liberia, Mr Anatoliy Ulanov, and the charge d'affaires of the Ghanaian Embassy in Liberia, Peter Sackey. According to an Executive Mansion release, the two foreign diplomats were declared personae non gratae for their activities incompatible with their diplomatic status. The release said the diplomats had been given 48 hours to leave the country. It further said the action to expel the diplomats had been taken in order to preserve the cordial relations existing between Liberia and the two countries respectively.

Foreign Mission Aware of 'Plot'

AB221925 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Excerpts] The Government of Liberia has declared as personae non gratae the ambassador of the Soviet Union to Liberia, Mr Anatoliy Ulanov, and the charge d'affaires of the Ghanaian Embassy in Liberia, Peter Sackey.

Yesterday, the head of state and commander in chief, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, quoted Captain Johnny Herring as saying that a foreign mission accredited near Monrovia was aware of an impending plot to overthrow the PRC [People's Redemption Council] Government and promised to give the operation its support by providing money, arms, and drugs.

MALI

Yugoslav Party Delegation Visits 22 Nov

AB221655 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Slavko Veselinov, member of the Presidium of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, began an official visit to Mali yesterday. The visit will last until 24 November. Slavko Veselinov was met on arrival by His Excellency Mohamed Salidu Soumare, treasurer of the Central Executive Bureau of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM].

The Yugoslav delegation held talks this morning at the Maison du Peuple with their Malian counterparts. Also this morning, the Yugoslav delegation visited [words indistinct]. It will go to Segou on Wednesday to visit the Malian Textile Company and the Sananga dam. On 24 November another working session will be held by both parties.

Comrade Slavko Veselinov will pay a courtesy call on the deputy secretary general of the UDPM and the secretary for economic and social affairs of the Central Executive Bureau of the UDPM.

NIGERIA

Bulgarian Army Chief Arrives in Lagos 21 Nov

AB212205 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The chief of General Staff of the Bulgarian People's Army, Colonel General Atanas Semerdzhiev, arrived in Lagos today on a friendly visit at the invitation of his Nigerian counterpart, Lieutenant Colonel M.I. Wushishi.

He was met on arrival by Lt Col Wushishi and other top Army chiefs. During his 5-day stay in the country, the Bulgarian Army chief will visit Ibadan, where he will inspect some Armed Forces' institutions. He is also scheduled to pay a courtesy call on the vice president, Dr Alex Ekwueme, and hold discussions with Nigerian Army hierarchy on matters of mutual interest.

UPPER VOLTA

Niger President Interviewed by L'OBSERVATEUR

AB221145 Ouagadougou L'OBSERVATEUR in French 14 Nov 83 PP 7-9

[Interview with Niger President Seyni Kountche at the end of his working visit to Ouagadougou on 11 November — questioners unidentified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr President, what conclusions have you drawn from your recent meeting with Comrade Thomas Sankara?

[Kountche] Upper Volta and Niger face a set of common problems. Both countries are landlocked, Sahelian, and in the process of development. First of all, we are landlocked. Part of the traffic necessary to ensure a greater degree of comfort for the people of Niger passes through Upper Volta. This means that our country is interested in developing rail and road communications networks. We examined the ways and means of guaranteeing that these networks are sufficiently reliable to maintain a constant flow of traffic at all times and under all circumstances.

Our countries are also Sahelian. The just-ended agricultural campaign ignored neither northern Upper Volta nor western Niger. This affected both human beings and animals. We also took advantage of our meeting here — prior to the summit conference of the Inter-State Committee to Fight Drought in the Sahel — to examine measures that might truly assist the populations not favored by nature and give special protection to our important livestock, which constitutes part of our wealth. These steps would save our livestock from a tragic fate. Within the framework of economic institutions, we of course reviewed all possible measures aimed at achieving a genuine solidarity in order to enable our respective peoples to emerge from this state of underdevelopment.

Upper Volta and Niger belong to Africa and the world. As you must have noted, we did not remain silent concerning certain political problems of interest to our continent. It is only natural that our dearest wish should concern the total independence of our continent, the problem of Namibia, the return of peace to Chad, and the problem of Western Sahara. Because we are attached to the Arab and Muslim world, we could not remain indifferent to the Palestinian issue.

[Question] Mr President, you have just mentioned the principle of solidarity among the states of the subregion. We would like to ask you a question regarding this issue because Nigeria quite recently expelled nationals from ECOWAS member states. What do you think of heads of state who use such methods in the subregion in violation of the principle of free movement of people?

[Kountche] We have a forum in which we could discuss this question, the ECOWAS for example; and let us not forget that beyond certain principles of solidarity, there are also principles of sovereignty. Less than a year ago, citizens of Upper Volta, Niger, Ghana, and other countries were expelled. On that occasion, we made moves within the framework of our small Entente Council family; we asked the council's chairman to contact the Nigerian authorities in order to have more ample information because some of our nationals had settled in that country for many years and the country had therefore become theirs as far as the exercise of their professions was concerned. [as published] Apart from asking for explanations, the move was also aimed at finding out whether measures could not be taken to obtain some compensation, both material and moral. But as I have just said, we must try to reconcile the principles of sovereignty and the principles of solidarity within the framework of the institutions we ourselves have created and which we want to be more dynamic.

[Question] What do you think about the American intervention in Grenada?

[Kountche] I can tell you this: In Niger, we have a principle which we applied in similar cases. We are small countries and we have always condemned the principle of intervention. In the past, we condemned the intervention in Afghanistan. If because of certain considerations other countries venture in the future to invade some small and weak countries, we will — despite our political and economic situation — adopt the appropriate attitude in conformity with this principle.

ANGOLA

Cooperation Secretariat Meeting Issues Communique

MB191320 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Communique issued by Consultative Council of the Secretariat of State for Cooperation on 19 November]

[Text] The fifth expanded Consultative Council of the Secretariat of State for Cooperation met at the Oncology Center in Luanda 15-18 November 1983 under the chairmanship of Comrade Carlos Antonio Fernandes, secretary of state for cooperation. The meeting was attended by officials of the central body, provincial organizations, as well as officials of the (Logitecnica) Enterprise, a state economic unit. At the opening session Comrade Carlos Antonio Fernandes made an important speech which was adopted as a working document. The Consultative Council approved the following agenda:

1. Reading and approval of the proceedings of the last expanded Consultative Council;
2. Assessment of activities during the first 6 months;
3. Analysis and approval of the international cooperation plan;
4. Discussion and approval of the 1984 program of action;
5. Rules and methodology for the holding of the Consultative Council;
6. Measures to be taken to comply with the guidelines of the first party (?unit) congress and the People's Assembly.

The Consultative Council noted the need for permanent control over the foreign working force, reduction of responsibilities toward the foreign working force, control of effectiveness and productivity of the foreign working force, urgent approval of an expatriate statute, rigorous control over contracts of technical assistance and rendering of services, improvement in the situation of and increase in the lodging capacity for expatriates, a system of importing foreign workers based on the existing lodging capacity, supervision and control over projects and programs which benefit from external credits and aid, necessary conditions for the creation of the international cooperation plan, and the status of the (Logitecnica) Enterprise state economic unit as a priority enterprise in the context of the finance reform program of enterprises.

The Consultative Council took note of the complexity and importance of regular control over the effectiveness and productivity of the foreign working force, supervision and control over projects and programs that benefit from external credits and aid, and the creation of the international cooperation plan. It recognized the political nature and economic importance of international cooperation relations and noted the need for a wider discussion of those matters. Therefore, the council has recommended that these matters be discussed in a seminar on coordination and qualification of international cooperation to be held as soon as possible. Bearing in mind the speech made by Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the celebration of the eighth anniversary of national independence, particularly the questions related to international cooperation, the Consultative Council has recommended the adoption of the following urgent measures:

— Compulsory registration of the various contracts of the foreign working force at the Secretariat of State for Cooperation under pain of cancellation. The Secretariat of State for Cooperation is entitled to review all contracts which are not in the context of the policy of international cooperation as outlined by the MPLA-Labor Party.

— Control over the signing of contracts for technical assistance and rendering of services.

— Preparation of a general table concerning specialities and professions for use as a reference to consult when recruiting expatriates.

— Approval of an expatriate statute.

— System of importing foreign working force for 1984, bearing in mind the existing lodging facilities.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Receives Angolan MPLA Party Official

MB230914 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] President Samora Machel received yesterday Afonso Van Dunem, MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee secretary for external relations, who came to Mozambique as a special envoy of Machel's Angolan counterpart, Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Cooperation between the two parties was discussed at the meeting. A spokesman from the Office of the President said the meeting was part of the cooperation and coordination of actions by the vanguards of the peoples of Mozambique and Angola. During his stay in our country, Afonso Van Dunem will hold talks with Frelimo Party officials to exchange experience in various fields of party activity.

$3 Million Petroleum Agreement Signed With Norway

MB222000 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Mozambique and Norway today signed a 5-year agreement under which Mozambique will receive technical and financial assistance for the development of the petroleum sector. Under the agreement, Norway will grant Mozambique about $3 million to finance feasibility, geological, and geophysical studies, as well as the training of Mozambican personnel.

The agreement was signed by Mozambique's secretary of state for international cooperation, Antonio Sumbane, and the representative of the Norwegian Agency for International Development, (Anne Dallan). Speaking to Radio Maputo after the signing ceremony, the newly appointed Norwegian ambassador to Mozambique, Knut Taraldset, said he held great expectations as to the future of the agreement.

NAMIBIA

AFP: SWAPO Charges RSA Using Chemical Weapons

AB221300 Paris AFP in English 1208 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Lisbon, Nov 22 (AFP) — South Africa is using chemical weapons in northern Namibia, the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) has alleged. The allegation was reported by the Angolan news agency ANGOP received here today. SWAPO is fighting a guerrilla war against South Africa, which has administered Namibia since 1966 in defiance of the United Nations.

The organization said South African troops were using "poisonous substances" to "clean up" a 600-metre (550-yard) strip along the 110-kilometre (70-mile) road from Grootfontein to Rundhu. The report quoted SWAPO as saying this "desperate" action, using weapons that caused irreparable damage to the environment, was aimed at "protecting the occupying forces from attacks by Namibian patriotic forces".

It was reported from Windhoek a month ago that the South African forces were using defoliants to clear a 300-metre strip each side of the strategic road to reduce the risk of ambushes on military convoys.

SOUTH AFRICA

STAR Editorial Supports U.S. Stand on Ciskei

MB191108 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 18 Nov 83 p 10

[Editorial: "Ciskei Terror Must Be Curbed"]

[Text] Both Britain and the United States have now expressed themselves strongly on the repressive reign of terror in Ciskei. This week the U.S. State Department, in what was ostensibly a safety warning to American citizens, noted that "public order appears to have broken down in many areas" of the homeland. The statement added: "The U.S. holds South Africa responsible for developments in Ciskei, which is viewed by the U.S. Government as part of South Africa."

Many South Africans are equally concerned. On Wednesday Catholic priests and nuns staged a placard protest in central Johannesburg against violations of human rights in Ciskei, in particular the detention of the secretary-general of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference, Father Smangaliso Mkhatshwa. He was arrested by Ciskei security police nearly three weeks ago after attending a service on the Fort Hare campus. Attempts to find out his whereabouts — including one by the Dutch Foreign Minister — have met with silence.

After less than two years of "independence" Ciskei has become a byword for all the worst excesses of banana republics. It has detained scores of people without trial, harassed labour leaders, banned a major trade union. Reports of torture are widespread. To break a boycott of a Government bus service the Sebe government imposed a state of emergency in August and has used a variety of strong-arm methods, including unprovoked attacks by a vigilante force and a mini-Sharpville in which many commuters were shot by police.

President Lennox Sebe seems impervious to criticism. There is little that will in fact deter him from this disastrous course — other than a firm stand from his Pretoria sponsors.

The State Department is right: South Africa cannot shrug off responsibility by saying Ciskei is independent. Its "statehood" is a creation of apartheid theory. Its creators must share the world's opprobrium and the blame for the damage it spreads to the rest of the country.

SWAZILAND

New Cabinet Sworn in; Prince Bhekimpi Speaks

MB221830 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The new cabinet ministers were sworn in today at cabinet office by the attorney general, Mr Patrick Makanza. Speaking at the ceremony, the prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, welcomed and congratulated the ministers for their appointment to serve the queen, together with their subjects. Prince Bhekimpi said as ministers they will be working 24 hours a day. He said he hoped they will dedicate themselves to their work and put government on the right gear at all times. He also reminded them that, as ministers, they are expected to exercise direct supervision in their respective ministries. The prime minister said they should always surrender their day-to-day duties before God for guidance. He said the ministries they have been appointed to have prinicpal secretaries who will advise them on work done, and their main duties would be to safeguard government policy. He appealed to them to work as a team and not to criticize a colleague when he is away.

The prime minister also announced his departure for New Delhi and appointed the minister without portfolio, Mr Mhambi Mnisi, to act as prime minister.

Bhekimpi Leads Commonwealth Meeting Delegation

MB221900 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Prince Bhekimpi left the country this afternoon for New Delhi, India to lead the Swazi delegation to this year's Commonwealth heads of state and governments conference commencing tomorrow. The delegation comprises the foreign minister, Mr Richard Velaphi Dlamini; and the Swaziland high commissioner to London, Mr George Mamba; and the principal secretary for economic planning, Mr Edward Vusi Sikhondze, who are both already in India to attend preliminary sessions. The prime minister and his entourage were seen off at Matsapha Airport by the member of the Supreme Council Standing Committee, Prince Mfanasibili, the whole new cabinet ministers, members of Parliament, and top government officials.

Police Report Killing of Two ANC Members

MB221700 Mbabane Television Service in English 1630 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, has confirmed reports that two members of the ANC were shot dead at Elugaganeni in Manzini at about 0230 this morning. A third ANC man who escaped unhurt was later detained by the police and is understood to be assisting them in their investigations. Mr Msibi said he did not know who the assailants of the two victims were, but added that the matter was being investigated by the police.

Further Details

MB221922 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The commissioner of police in Swaziland, Mr Titus Msibi, has confirmed that two suspected members of the banned ANC were shot dead in Swaziland early this morning. He told our Africa desk from Mbabane this evening that his information was that one of the men shot had been identified as Mr (Zakele Sandile Njanza) of South Africa, and that the other was Mr (Keith Mcfadden) of Swaziland. A third alleged member of the ANC was arrested by the police after the shooting incident, which was southeast of Manzini. The third man was identified as Mr (Cyril Raymond), also of South Africa. The Swaziland police said that today's shooting, which occurred at a house near Manzini, was the second incident in 3 months. In the first shootout, a pilot with the Swazi Army and two civilian women were shot by unidentified attackers. Mr Msibi said that Mr (Cyril Raymond) was being questioned by the police.

ZAMBIA

DAILY MAIL Reports Further on New Cabinet

MB211015 Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 4 Nov 83 pp 1,4

[By *MAIL* reporter]

[Text] President Kaunda has reappointed Mr Luke Mwananshiku as Finance Minister and retained 17 old ministers in the new cabinet which he has directed to take pragmatic steps to ensure quick economic recovery. Addressing his first news conference at State House yesterday since his reelection as republican president, Dr Kaunda also announced the elevation of three ministers of state to full cabinet ministers and the appointment of 12 new ministers of state.

Mr Mwananshiku, who takes over the finance portfolio from Prime Minister Nalumino Mundia, first held the same post in December 1975 and later served as Bank of Zambia governor. He is currently chairman of Standard Bank (Zambia) Limited. Former minister of general education and culture, Mr Mufaya Mumbuna, is a notable exclusion from the new cabinet. The president said he had high regard for Mr Mumbuna's intellect and would have been very happy to reappoint him, but he could not do so at the moment.

He said of his new outfit: "It is a cabinet that is capable of fighting the ills of our economy today. The new cabinet has a chance to do that and I can assure them (ministers) that the Central Committee will be fully behind them." The president stressed the importance of restructuring the economy, with emphasis on developing the agricultural industry. "Details will be given later to each ministry on how I would like them to function," Dr Kaunda said.

The full cabinet is as follows: Mr Luke Mwananshiku (Finance); Mr Frederick Chomba (Home Affairs); Mr Gibson Chigaga (Legal Affairs and Attorney-General); Professor Lameck Goma (Foreign Affairs); Mr Unia Mwila (Agriculture and Water Development); Mr Leonard Subulwa (Commerce and Industry); Mr Justin Mukando (Cooperatives); Mr Clement Mwananshiku (Defense); Mr Kebby Musokotwane (General Education and Culture); Mr Mark Tambatamba (Health); Mr Basil Kabwe (Mines); and Mr Rajah Kunda (Higher Education).

Others are Mr Fitzpatrick Chuula (Lands and Natural Resources); Mr Frederick Hapunda (Labour and Social Services); Dr Henry Meebelo (National Commission for Development Planning); Mr Arnold Simuchimba (National Guidance); General Kingsley Chinkuli (Power, Transport and Communications); Mr Roger Sakuhuka (Tourism); Mr Haswell Mwale (Works and Supply); Mr Ben Kakoma (Youth and Sport); and Mr Cosmas Chibanda (Information and Broadcasting Services).

Those elevated are former Minister of State for Culture, Mr Chibanda, who takes over from Mr Tambatamba as Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services; former Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Mr Subulwa, who now heads the same ministry, and former Minister of State for Agriculture and Water Development, Mr Justin Mukando, who becomes Minister of Cooperatives.

The former backbenchers who now hold ministerial posts are Choma MP Mr Daniel Munkombwe, who has been appointed Minister of State for Agriculture and Water Development, Bahati MP Mr Simon Kalaba, and Luampa MP Mr Kenneth Kakoma, who will both serve as ministers of state in the Ministry of Power, Transport and Communications.

Also elevated are deputy speaker of the National Assembly, Mr Raphael Chota, who is MP for Luanshya, and newly-elected MP for Mumbwa East, Mr Kennedy Shepande, who have both been appointed ministers of state for General Education and Culture. Mr Shepande was Secretary for Administration in the UNIP [United National Independence Party] Youth League.

Bwacha MP and deputy Chief Whip, Mr Richard Banda, has been appointed Minister of State for Cooperatives, and new MP for Chama Mr Richard Zimba takes over as Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, while Kalomo MP and district governor Mr Nathan Siafwa becomes Minister of State for Mines. Mwansabombwe MP Mr Peter Chanshi has been appointed Minister of State for Health; MP for Livingstone, Brigadier General Enos Haimbe, takes over as Minister of State for Tourism; while Bangweulu MP Mr Joseph Kasongo assumes the post of Minister of State for Youth and Sport. Mr Lavu

Mulimba, who is MP for Petauke, is the new Minister of State for National Commission for Development Planning.

The former ministers of State who have retained their positions are Mr Otema Musuka (Foreign Affairs); Senior Chieftainess Nkomeshya (Home Affairs); Mrs Mavis Muyunda (Decentralisation); Mr Ludwig Sondashi (Labour and Social Services); and Mr Noah Dilamonu, who moves to Works and Supply from the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Development.

Other junior ministers who have retained their positions are Mr Cosmas Masongo, who moves to Lands and Natural Resources from the Ministry of Agriculture; Mr Mbambo Sianga, who goes to Higher Education from Legal Affairs; Mr John Mwondela, who moves from Health to head the civil service in the Office of the Prime Minister; and Mr Jameson Kalaluka, who continues as Finance Minister of State. There will be no Minister of State for Legal Affairs in order to reduce the chain of command and thereby eliminate some of the administrative problems.

"The order of command will now be shortened and some administrative problems the ministry has faced from time to time will be lessened," Dr Kaunda said. Former Minister of State in the Ministry of Power, Transport and Communications, Mr Maxwell Lufoma, is the only junior minister dropped out of the ones reelected.

Dr Kaunda also disclosed that the MPS who were also appointed governors in the last term could not continue as governors after losing the elections. They are former Chipili MP Mr Whynter Chabala, who was also Kawambwa governor; former Kabwata MP Mr Maxwell Sibongo, who was Lusaka Rural governor; former Kasama MP and governor, Mr Frederick Walinkonde; and former Monze MP and governor, Mr Paul Hamananga. Their replacements will be appointed later.

Meanwhile, the President said the government would act quickly on the 10 percent wage ceiling after recommendations made by the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Services who submitted a joint report. He said: "The ball is now in our court."

On reports that Tazara [Tanzanian-Zambian Railway] was neglected because most of the imports were coming in through the southern route, the president said only goods that were urgently needed were ferried on the southern route since they were ordered from South Africa.

It would be bad economics to transport goods from South Africa to Zambia through the Tanzanian port of Dr es Salaam and onto the Tazara. Dr Kaunda said other imports such as fertilizer were still being ferried into the country by Tazara.

Reportage on Kaunda State Visit to Bangladesh

For Dhaka coverage of President Kaunda's 18-21 November state visit to Bangladesh, including reports on a Kaunda news conference and joint communique, see the 22 November South Asia *DAILY REPORT*.

Reform of Namibian Criminal Justice System Urged

MB222028 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] Namibians were today urged to establish a law development commission to facilitate the process of law reform when they attain independence. The minister of legal affairs and attorney general, Mr Gibson Chigaga, said in Lusaka today that there was need to reform the criminal justice system of Namibia, because it reflected the abhorrent apartheid system of justice. Mr Chigaga was speaking when he officially opened a seminar on plans for the reform of criminal justice in Namibia. He told seminar participants, which included chief justices from Botswana and Zambia, the entire criminal justice of Namibia was geared to terrorizing the Namibian population and make them subservient to the South African repressive regime.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Outlines New ZRP Promotion Procedure

MB210940 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 21 Nov 83

[Text] The Ministry of Home Affairs is to change the procedure of promotions within the Zimbabwe Republic Police [ZRP]. The minister, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, told a rally at (Chipadikwe) and (Mupendura) yesterday that before any member of the police force is promoted, recommendations from members of the public will be sought. Comrade Ushewokunze said government has been promoting members with colonial mentality, some of whom, he said, are refusing to conform so that they can reflect the country's new sociopolitical economic order. He urged such members to conform now if they are to be part of the progressive Zimbabwean society. The minister said members of the ZRP who shout ZANU-PF slogans should not be penalized because they are only identifying themselves with the majority of the people. Comrade Ushewokunze, however, stressed that this is not intended to turn members of the police force into politicians. Urging people to work hard for the well-being of the country, the minister warned against subversive elements and called for vigilance.

Further on Changes

MB230833 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Text] The minister for home affairs, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, has given more details of the planned change of procedure in promotions within the Zimbabwe Republic Police. Comrade Ushewokunze says the involvement of the masses in the way police officers are promoted will not be an ad hoc process, as it might appear at first sight. He explained in a statement yesterday that there have been instances where police officers have been promoted in spite of complaints from the public, prompting accusations that the government is ignoring public interest. The minister said in order to improve the relationship between the police force and the public, the government has decided to institute measures whereby the police force will become more accountable to the public.

Ballet Tour Strengthens Cultural Links With USSR

MB221230 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Nov 83

[Text] The current tour by the Soviet Bolshoy ballet group has helped to strengthen the cultural links between Zimbabwe and the USSR. The minister of education and culture, Comrade Dzingai Mutumbuka, says Zimbabwe looks forward to continued cooperation in the field of culture in the future. He was speaking in Harare last night at a function where the government presented gifts to members of the Bolshoy ballet in recognition and appreciation of the enjoyment they have given to Zimbabwe in their dance. The Bolshoy still has another week in Zimbabwe.

Radio Truth Comments on Developments in Country

War Pledge to Mozambique

MB230801 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] We see that Zimbabwe is now committed to Mozambique to the extent of a promise to go to war against South Africa should Mozambique want this to happen. In a message sent to Mozambique after the South African raid on an ANC base in Maputo Mugabe said: Be assured of our fullest support for any measures you may take in defense of Mozambique's territorial integrity. The message, which was riddled with inconsistencies, was sent to Mozambique on the 18th of last month, just a week after Zimbabwe's raid into Botswana. We'd really like to know how Zimbabwe can describe itself, through its prime minister, as being peace-loving, and we'd also like to know the depths of reasoning of our lords in Harare. We are peace-loving members of Southern African Development Coordination Conference yet we launch not one, but two raids into neighboring Botswana within the space of a few weeks. The raid against ANC bases in Maputo is described by Mugabe as being against all norms of international law; but what are the raids against innocent villagers in Botswana called internationally these days? Are they also not against international law? Or are they hot persuit raids, we wonder? If we are so peace-loving, let us keep our noses out of Mozambique and South African affairs and leave them to sort out their own problems. Virtually giving Mozambique a blank check to call on us for any military adventure Mozambique desires is only going to see us holding the short end of the stick. South Africa could take us both on and end the battle within 24 hours, and well we know it.

Youth Brigade Raids

MB191056 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 19 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] We note that ZANU-PF Youth Brigade members spent an enjoyable evening on the 11 November by raiding houses in Harare's Mount Pleasant. Allegedly looking for (Kachasu) brewers, they use axes and picks to batter down the doors to servants' quarters and arrested several people. Significantly, there was not a (Kachasu) brewer among the lot. However, by a strange coincidence, considering the deteriorating relationship between Harare and Washington, the house of an American diplomat was raided. The Youth Brigade members searched the grounds of his house and threatened his wife and children. The diplomat was not present at the time. We wonder how long it will be before Youth Brigade members will be dispatched into predominantly white areas to ensure all whites attend ZANU-PF rallies. This is what they do in the black areas and townships, and it is only a matter of time before they extend their activities on behalf of their masters. Perhaps this attack on Mount Pleasant enjoyed the two-fold purpose of preparing the ground at the same time as it gave clear warning to Washington that the honeymoon is over.

Muzorewa Statement

MB230800 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 23 Nov 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Bishop Muzorewa has issued a statement from his cell at Goromonzi detention center. The statement is short, pithy, and to the point. We quote it verbatim: I continue to hope and pray that God can somehow help us to be delivered from the oppression of today imposed on us not by Smith, not by Israel, not by South Africa, and not by any persons with white skin, but by our ruling party and Government of Zimbabwe with black skin.

How many tens of thousands of other people in Zimbabwe nurture the same hope in their breasts? Many are themselves in prison for saying openly words similar to those of the bishop. Tens and maybe hundreds of thousands are still outside prison and saying the same words secretly. Hundreds of thousands more are growing so disillusioned with the Harare regime they are also beginning to speak similar words openly. Soon they will be shouting them.